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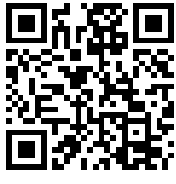

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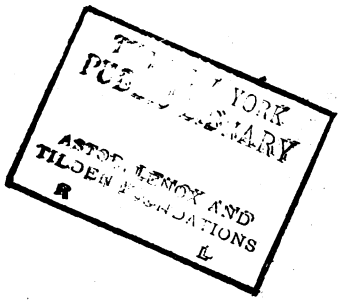

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The Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Chronicle

1927

An Annual Record of the First and Second Battalions
Formerly the 43rd and 52nd Light Infantry

Compiled and Edited
by
THE CHRONICLE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

VOLUME XXXV
January to December 1927

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THE
OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
LIGHT INFANTRY CALENDAR
1927

When no Regiment or Battalion is named, the event recorded refers to both the 43rd and 52nd.

Thick type denotes Honours on the Colours or in the Army List.

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JANUARY.

13 W — 1809, Sir John Moore's retreat on Corunna. 1st Bn. 43rd and 2nd Bn. 52nd embarked at Vigo for England. 1900, 1st Bn. arrived in South Africa.

24 S — 1889, 43rd reviewed by Queen Victoria at Osborne.

FEBRUARY.

2 Tu — 1814, 2nd Bn. 52nd engaged in attack on Suburbs of Antwerp which had been re-occupied by the French.

19 F — 1900, 1st Bn. engaged at Kitchener's Kop. 1901, H.M. the King of Portugal appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment.

MARCH.

5 S — 1791, Commencement of the Siege of Bangalore, 52nd present.

24 W — 1741, the 43rd raised and numbered 54th. 1918, first battle of **Bapaume**, 52nd present.

APRIL.

8 Th — 1810, 2nd Bn. 52nd marched from Chatham to London to assist in quelling riots.

17 S — 1863, Field-Marshal Lord Seaton died.

MAY.

5 W — 1811, battle of **Fuentes d'Onor**.

27 Th — 1857, 52nd joined the Punjab Field Force under Brig.-General Nicholson at Wuzeerabad, and by order of its Commanding officer (Colonel Campbell) was dressed in khaki; the first regiment so clothed.

JUNE.

1 Tu — 1915, 1st Bn. engaged in the capture of Turkish positions on the Tigris.

16 W — 1815, 43rd left England to join Wellington's Army in Belgium

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JULY.

4 S — 1815, 52nd camped in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris.

17 S — 1803, 43rd made Light Infantry.

AUGUST.

24 Tu — 1914, **Retreat from Mons** commenced. 1916, 5th Bn. present at capture of **Delville Wood.**

30 M — 1812, the Light Division engaged at the passage of the Bidassoa.

SEPTEMBER.

3 S — 1916, battle of **Guillemont**; 6th Bn. heavily engaged.

12 S — 1914, battle of the **Aisne** commenced; 52nd present. 1918, Cpl. W. Wilcox, 2/4th Bn., near Laventie, gained the V.C.

OCTOBER.

4 M — 1902, 1st Bn. arrived in England from the South African War.

31 S — 1914, battle of **Gheluvelt**; 2nd Bn. engaged.

NOVEMBER.

2 Tu — 1815, 52nd, after a stay of two months, marched out of Paris and went into quarters at Versailles.

26 S — 1914, 1st Bn. reached Mesopotamia.

DECEMBER.

3 S — 1915, 1st Bn., with remainder of 6th Division, reached Kut.

17 S — 1851, 43rd landed in South Africa for the Kaffir War.

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THE ARMY LIST—DECEMBER, 1927

THE OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

South Midland Area.

The United Red and White Rose.

"**Quebec, 1759,**" "**Martinique, 1762,**" "**Havannah,**" "**Mysore,**" "**Hindoostan,**" "**Martinique, 1794,**" "**Vimiera,**" "**Corunna,**" "**Busaco,**" "**Fuentes d'Onor,**" "**Ciudad Rodrigo,**" "**Badajoz,**" "**Salamanca,**" "**Vittoria,**" "**Pyrenees,**" "**Nivelle,**" "**Nive,**" "**Orthes,**" "**Toulouse,**" "**Peninsula,**" "**Waterloo,**" "**South Africa, 1851–2–3,**" "**Delhi, 1857,**" "**New Zealand,**" "**Relief of Kimberley,**" "**Paardeberg,**" "**South Africa, 1900–02.**"

The Great War—17 *Battalions.*—"**Mons,**" "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "**Ypres, 1914, '17,**" "**Langemarck, 1914, '17,**" "Gheluvelt," "**Nonne Bosschen,**" "Aubers," "Festubert, 1915," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Mount Sorrel," "**Somme, 1916, '18,**" "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Guillemont," "Flers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "**Cambrai, 1917, '18,**" "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Lys," "Hazebrouck," "Béthune," "Hindenburg Line," "Havrincourt," "Canal du Nord," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "France and Flanders, 1914–18." "**Piave,**" "Vittorio Veneto," "Italy, 1917–18." "**Doiran, 1917, '18,**" "Macedonia, 1915–18," "Kut al Amara, 1915," "**Ctesiphon,**" "**Defence of Kut al Amara,**" "Khan Baghdadi," "Mesopotamia, 1914–18," "Archangel, 1919."

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2nd „ (52nd „) .. .. *Chakrata (for Calcutta).*
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3rd Bn. (Oxford Mil.) .. .. .. *Oxford.*
Record and Pay Office .. .. *Warwick*

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43rd Battalion .. .. *Southwark, S. Australia.*

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The Hauraki Regiment .. .. .. *Morrinsville.*

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3/6/17
Day, M. F., *M.C., p.s.c.* (1) 31/10/27
1/1/19

Majors (8).

Sanderson, A. E., *D.S.O.* (1) 10/3/23
1/1/18
Whittall, G. E., *M.C., s.* 21/12/23
3/6/17
Portal, J. L., *D.S.O.* (2) 15/2/24
Tolson, W. G., *M.C., i.v.* 15/2/24
Paget, B. C. T., *D.S.O., M.C., p.s.c., s.* 15/2/24
bt. lt.-col. 1/7/25
Powell, J. J., *f.s.* (1) *d.* 2/3/24
Paris, A. C. M., *M.C., p.s.c., s.* 20/7/26
1/1/18
Plowden, G. F., *M.C.* (1) 16/7/27

Captains (14).

Bratt, R. J., D.S.O., *p.s.c.* (1) *Adjt.* 18/10/15
bt. maj. 1 1/19

1st and 2nd Battalions—*contd.*

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bt. maj. 3/6/18
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Bailie, C. W. H. (1) 1/1/17
Meade, J. W. (1) *d.* 1/1/17
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Crawford, C. B. (2) 1/3/21
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Packe, E. A., *M.B.E., D.F.C.* (1) 1/1/23
Booth, P. (2) *d.* 1/2/23
Eagle, H. S. (2) 14/2/23
Vernon, H., c.o. 15/2/23
Smith, E. A., *M.C.* (2) 15/2/23
VC*Toye A. M.* M.C., e.a. 26/4/24

1st and 2nd Battalions—*contd.*

Captains—contd.

Eyston, C. J., s. 4/5/25
Giles, L. W., *M.C.* (1) 16/5/25
Colvill, D. C., *M.C.* (2) 16/5/25
Ames, W. A. R. (2) 28/4/26
Slattery, S. C. P. (1) 9/5/26
Hamilton, A. B. (2) 16/7/27

Subalterns (34).

Lieutenants.

Coad, R. H., M.M., *i.* 23/8/18
Wootten, K. S. (2) 5/1/19
Randall, L. R. (1) *d.* 5/1/19
Yeoman, W. T. (2) 1/6/19
Jefferson, K. S., s. 21/6/19
Doyne, R. H. (1) 24/10/19
Thorne, J. (2) 24/10/19
Clarke, W. G. (2) 21/2/20
Newton-King, D. S. (1) 20/12/20
Jarvis, J. B. (1) 16/7/21
Kilburn, J. E. D. (2) 16/7/21
Last, M. H. S. (1) 15/12/21
Stebbing, J. L. [L] *c.o.* 24/12/22
Theobalds, J. A. (*d., Adjt.* 3/11/26) 14/7/23
Richards, E. C. (2) *Adjt.* 23/12/23
Stephens, M. T. (2) 23/12/23
Graham J. P. A. G. (1) 23/12/23

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The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry—*continued.*

1st and 2nd Battalions—*contd.*

Lieutenants—contd.

Conant, R. T. (2) 31/8/24
Branson, C. W. P. (1) 1/2/25
Hughes, G. G. (2) 31/1/26
Wykeham, G. C. H. (2) 31/1/26
Slessor, A. B., c.o. 27/8/26
Bayley, K. (2) *d.* 27/8/26
Bernard, *Hon.* C. B. A. (1) 27/8/26
Metcalfe, P. F. (2) 30/8/26
Cooke, R. H. (2) 30/8/26
Ward, C. L. C. (2) 29/1/27
Alston-Roberts-West, M. M. (1) 3/9/27
Horan, F. T. (2) 3/9/27
Clifton, C. (1) 3/9/27

2nd Lieutenants.

Boileau, P. C. (1) 15/1/26
Palmer, J. D. (2) 4/2/26
Lathbury, G. W. (1) 4/2/26
Rowley, T. G. D. (1) 4/2/26
Edmunds, J. S. R. (1) 30/8/26
Ducat-Hamersley, H. J. C. (1) 30/8/26
Falkiner, L. L. (2) 30/8/26

Adjutants (2.)

Richards, E. C., *lt.* (2) 1/3/25
Brett, R. J., *D.S.O., p.s.c., capt.* (*bt. maj.*) (1) 30/10/26

Quarter-Masters (3).

Mason, A. E., *d.* 7/11/14
capt. 3/6/19
Clare, F., *D.C.M., lt.* (2) 30/6/24
Smith, E., *lt.* (1) 9/9/26

3rd Battalion (Militia).

Hon. Colonel.

⚔*Marlborough*, Rt. Hon. the Duke of, K.G., T.D., *t.a.* 14/6/08

Captain.

⚔Godsal, P., *M.C.* 7/6/02

4th Battalion (Territorial).

St. Cross Road, Oxford.

Hon. Colonel.

North The Lord, T.D. 9/1/95

4th Battalion (Territorial)—*contd.*

Lt.-Colonel.

⚔Ballard, J. A. (Lt.-Col. *ret. pay*) (*Res. of Off.*) *t.a.* 7/10/24

Major.

⚔Long, B., *M.C.* 26/11/24

Captains.

⚔Symonds, R. F., *t.a.* 4/8/17
⚔Edmunds, M. W., *t.a.* 16/6/20
⚔Smith, S. 2/9/21
⚔Shaw, J. W. (*Lt. Res. of Off.*) 28/1/2

Lieutenants.

⚔Young, A. R. R. 24/7/20
Moore, E. D. 10/1/25
Evans, H. 2/2/26
Whinney, D. H. 12/3/26
Wakeling, G. R. 15/12/26
Barmby, J. 11/2/27
Clarke, E. G. C. 7/7/27

2nd Lieutenants.

Good, M. S. 1/7/26
Kane, D. F. (empld. O.T.C.) 3/7/26
16/1/26
Lister, C. H. 13/12/26
Tawney, J. J. 15/12/26
Peel, J. F. R. 2/4/27

Adjutant.

⚔Naylor, G., *M.C.*, Capt. Oxf. & Bucks. L.I. 5/11/23

Quarter-Master.

⚔Arlett, G. T., *D.C.M., lt.* 1/7/21

[Uniform—*Scarlet.*
Facings—*White.*]

Officer of the General List (T.A.) affiliated.

Dingwall, Lt. W. S. (*St. Edward's Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.*) 25/7/26

Cadet Units affiliated.
Burford Grammar School C. Corps.
Lord William's Grammar School, Thame, C. Corps.
Henley Royal Grammar School C. Corps.
Banbury County School C. Corps.

Buckinghamshire Battalion (Territorial).

Drill Hall, Market Square, Aylesbury.

Hon. Colonel.

Cottesloe, The Lord, C.B., V.D., T.D., *t.a.* 2/9/15

Lt.-Colonel.

⚔Hall, P. A., *D.S.O., M.C., T.D., t.a.* 2/12/26

Buckinghamshire Battalion (Territorial)—*contd.*

Major.

⚔Viney, O. V., *t.a.* 2/12/26
31/12/24

Captains.

⚔Burnett-Brown, A. D., *M.C.* 1/6/16
⚔*Troutbeck, G. L.* (*attd. O.T.C.*) 10/8/16
⚔Parrott, G. F., *M.C.* 10/2/25
Eliot, P. S. 11/2/25
⚔Welbourne, A. C. 9/5/25
⚔Anderson, C. O. D., *M.C.* 23/12/25

Lieutenants.

⚔Norman, R. E. 31/7/20
Sleigh, R. P. 11/7/23
Meggs, T. E. A. 23/2/25
Sale, R. D. R. 1/6/25
Lucey, C. 13/3/27
Bath, R. E. 9/5/27
Janes, H. R. 24/6/27

2nd Lieutenants.

Rowland, J. W. 3/7/24
Stevens, R. K. 15/5/26
Watts, J. S. 11/6/26
Walker, L. M. 6/7/27
Naylor, G. St. G. 20/10/27
Quantrill, A. F. 21/10/27

Adjutant.

⚔Leslie, J. T., *M.C.*, Capt. R. Berks. R. 22/12/23

Quarter-Master.

⚔Nichol, E., *M.C., capt.* 17/2/15

[Uniform—*Dark grey.*
Facings—*Scarlet.*]

Cadet Unit affiliated.
Slough Secondary School Cadets.

Supplementary Reserve.

Category B.

Lieutenant.

⚔Southam, E. H. 29/5/25

2nd Lieutenants.

Pierce, N. H. 1/1/27
Paine, S. F. 29/1/27
Miles, G. F. W. 29/1/27
Brett, L. E. 13/8/27
Barstow, H. S. P. 30/11/27

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OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT EXTRA-REGIMENTALLY EMPLOYED

DECEMBER 31, 1927

RANK.	NAME.	HOW EMPLOYED.
Major ..	G. E. Whittall, M.C. ..	D.A.A.G., Rawal Pindi District, India.
Major ..	W. G. Tolson, M.C. ..	Adjutant, The Madras Guards (Auxiliary Forces), India.
Major and Bt. Lt.-Col	B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C., p.s.c.	G.S.O., 2nd Grade, Staff College, Camberley.
Major ..	A. C. M. Paris, M.C., p.s.c.	D.A.A. and Q.M.G., Welsh Area.
Captain and Bt.-Major	G. W. Titherington ..	Attached Sudan Defence Force.
Captain ..	W. L. Barnard	Adjutant, Bucks Bn. (Territorial).
Captain ..	C. B. Crawford	Adjutant, 4th Bn. (Territorial).
Captain ..	C. G. B. Stevens ..	A.D.C. to Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Malta.
Captain ..	C. R. Horley, M.C. ..	Staff Captain, Manzai Brigade, South Waziristan, India.
Captain ..	H. Vernon	Employed with the 3rd (Kenya) Bn., King's African Rifles.
Captain ..	A. M. Toye, V.C., M.C.	Instructor, Cairo Military School, Egypt.
Captain ..	C. J. Eyston	Company Commander, Boys' Technical School, Chepstow.
Lieut. ..	R. H. Coad, M.M. ..	Adjt. and Qr.Mr., Army School of Education, Belgaum, India.
Lieut. ..	J. L. Stebbing	With Iraq Levies (Regimental Officer)
Lieut. ..	A. B. Slessor	Employed with the Sierra Leone Battalion, West African Frontier Force.

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FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT ON THE ACTIVE AND HALF-PAY LIST OF THE ARMY

DECEMBER 31, 1927

RANK.	NAME.	DATE OF RANK.	ON REGL. STRENGTH.	APPOINTMENT.
Colonel	L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, C.B., D.S.O., p.s.c.	Jan. 1, 1919	1895-1920	British Military Attaché, Washington, U.S.A.
Colonel	J. F. C. Fuller, C.B.E., D.S.O., p.s.c.	Jan. 1, 1919	1898-1920	G.S.O., 1st Grade, 2nd Division, Aldershot.
Colonel	F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G., p.s.c.	June 3, 1920	1897-1923	A.A.G. (A.G.'s Dept.) War Office.
Colonel	E. R. Clayton, C.M.G., D.S.O.	June 3, 1922	1897-1924	Brigade Commander, 145th (South Midland) Infantry Brigade.
Colonel	A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O., p.s.c.	June 3, 1922	1898-1927	G.S.O., 1st Grade, Peshawar District, India.
Lt.-Col.	A. C. D. Thorne	Feb. 21, 1926	1900-1901	Sups. List (Executive Officer, Cantonment's Dept.), Belgaum, India Army.
Captain	J. B. Slade-Baker	Jan. 13, 1919	1915-20	Ordnance Officer, 4th Class, Dover.
Captain	F.W.S. Jourdain	July 13, 1919	1922-1923	Indian Signal Corps, Signal Training School, Jubbulpore.
Captain	T. G. C. Caulfeild-Stoker	April 6, 1921	1915-1924	Half-pay.
Captain	F. S. Straight, M.C.	Jan. 6, 1923	1914-1922	Royal Corps of Signals, Catterick.
Captain	M. F. M. Parkes, M.C.	Feb. 15, 1923	1915-1924	Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot.

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FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT NOW SERVING IN THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

DECEMBER 31, 1927

RANK.	NAME.	DATE OF RANK.	ON REGL. STRENGTH	Appointment.
Air-Vice-Marshal	Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.F.C., p.s.c.	Jan. 1, 1924	1898-1919	Commanding Fighting Area, Air Defences of Great Britain
Air-Commodore	F. V. Holt, C.M.G.,D.S.O., q.s.	July 1, 1925	1904-1919	Air Staff Duties, Headquarters Air Defences of Great Britain.
Group-Captain	U. J. D. Bourke, C.M.G.	Aug. 8, 1919	1903-1919	Group-Captain, Wessex Bombing Area, Air Defences of Great Britain.
Flight-Lieut.	H. V. Pendavis, D.S.O.	June 30, 1923	1915-1919	In. No. 2 Flying Training School, Digby Lincolnshire.

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FORMER OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT BELONGING TO THE RESERVE OF OFFICERS, DECEMBER, 1927

(From the Supplement to the Army List for December, 1927, which is corrected up to November 15, 1927, and "London Gazette" between November 16, 1927, and December 30, 1927, both dates inclusive.)

(A) GENERAL LIST

Major-Generals.

Davies, H. R., C.B.
Fanshawe, Sir R., K.C.B., D.S.O. (Hon. Col. 7 Bn. Worc. R.), p.s.c. (1) (R).

Colonels (Substantive).

Frith, C. H., C.B.E.
Higgins, C. G., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Hon. Brig.-Gen.), (1).

(B) REGIMENTAL LIST.

CLASS I.

Lieut.-Colonels.

Foljambe, Hon. G. W. F. S., D.S.O. ..	February 11, 1919
Sullivan, G. A., D.S.O.	March 11, 1919
Southey, J. A.	July 2, 1919
Bartlett, A. J. N., D.S.O.	August 19, 1919
Crosse, R. B., D.S.O.	March 20, 1920
Ballard, J. A. (Lieut.-Col., 4th Bn. t.a.) ..	January 14, 1921
Blewitt, G., D.S.O., M.C., p.s.c. ..	February 8, 1922
Boyle, C. R. C., D.S.O.	August 31, 1922

Majors.

Stephens, R.	June 6, 1918
Terry, W. E. C.	December 28, 1921
Dent, L. M. E., D.S.O. (s.c.)	June 1, 1922

Captains.

Mundey, S. C. B.	June 10, 1915
Milne, F. D. R., M.C.	January 26, 1917
Addington, R. N., M.C.	May 14, 1920
Barnes, R. M.	July 18, 1921
Hartland-Rowe, R. C.	February 14, 1923

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Lieutenants.

Sturges, O. H. M.	December 10, 1916
Whitehead, P. H. R.	October 7, 1917
Blyth, E. K.	April 27, 1918
Northam, N. F.	April 27, 1918
Huggard, G. C.	July 4, 1918
Holland, F. C.	June 21, 1919
Winsloe, R. D.	October 24, 1919
Muriel, L. F.	October 10, 1920
Plaistowe, F. H.	December 28, 1920
D'Arcy, G. C. W.	May 19, 1921
Manning, D. E. B.	July 16, 1921
Martyr, A.	January 19, 1922
Woods, H. J.	November 22, 1922

CLASS II.

Lieut.-Colonels.

Nisbet, H. C.	March 12, 1919
Ward, L. E. S., C.M.G., D.S.O. ..	April 30, 1919
Benson, C. B., D.S.O. (L.)	May 5, 1919
Pollock, J. A., D.S.O.	January 10, 1920
Weatherby, J. T., D.S.O., p.s.c. ..	December 18, 1920
Brooke, N. P., D.S.O. (L.)	May 30, 1923

Majors.

Whinney, H. F., D.S.O., O.B.E. ..	January 1, 1915
Henley, C. F.	October 1, 1915
Wood, H. L.	October 1, 1915
Morland, W. E. T., D.S.O., M.C. ..	January 18, 1917
Loverock, R. C., D.S.O., O.B.E. ..	August 25, 1918
Sewell, D. A. D., O.B.E., c.o.	August 29, 1924
Wyld, J. W. G., D.S.O., M.C. (s.c.) ..	February 27, 1924

Captains.

Field, G., M.C.	September 21, 1916
Cardy, A. G., M.C., D.C.M.	January 1, 1917
Wooding, W. W.	January 1, 1917
Chippindale, F. W.	February 1, 1917
McEnroy, P., D.S.O., M.C.	March 11, 1917
Cumberlege, G. F. J., D.S.O., M.C. ..	October 3, 1917
McEnroy, E.	August 4, 1919
Clegg, W.	August 13, 1919
Tipping, F. W., M.B.E.	November 29, 1919
Murray, C. H.	April 8, 1920
Merrie, D. B., M.C.	April 16, 1921
Fullbrook-Leggatt, L. E. W. O., M.C...	February 2, 1922
Sumption, F.	September 1, 1922

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Lieutenants.

Shaw, J. W. (Capt. 4th Bn.)	January 1, 1917
Vigars, E. H., D.C.M.	August 13, 1917
Isaac, A. H.	February 2, 1918
Murray, J. B.	April 4, 1918
Coleman, W. H. J.	April 21, 1918
Cowan, J. L.	August 14, 1918
Wright, J. W., M.M.	August 15, 1918
Atkins, J.	September 9, 1918
Davidson, M. C.	October 4, 1918
Bennett, A., M.B.E.	February 28, 2, 1919
Hayman, D. E.	March 4, 1919
Cuthbert, C. H.	April 20, 1919
Beckett, G. J.	April 27, 1919
Simmons, E. C.	June 21, 1919
Reddy, T. H.	July 31, 1919
Harman, R. M.	November 29, 1919
Cassidy, J. M.	March 20, 1920
Forse, J. F.	August 28, 1920
Sheppard, C. H.	May 13, 1921
Amherst, Hon. H. W.	September 1, 1926

2nd Lieutenants.

Kelly, G. F.	February 27, 1918
Crosfield, L. M.	September 26, 1920
Gossage, S. M.	December 6, 1923

Quartermaster.

Heatly, J., Capt.	October 14, 1911

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EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE," 1927

January 11.—Lieutenant D. S. Newton-King is restored to the establishment (January 9).

January 18.—Memoranda. Capt. R. Pennell, D.S.O. half pay, on completion of period of five years on h.p., is placed on retired pay (ill-health caused by wounds) and granted the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. (January 18).

January 21.—R.A.R.O. The following Colonel ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers (age limit), Hon. Brig.-General A. J. F. Eden, C.M.G., D.S.O. (January 20).

January 28.—2nd Lieutenant C. L. C. Ward to be Lieutenant (January 29).

February 25.—Captain H. T. Birch-Reynardson retires on retired pay (ill-health caused by wounds) (January 15).

May 10.—Commands and Staff. The following appointment is made: G.S.O., 1st Grade. Colonel J. F. C. Fuller, C.B.E., D.S.O., from G.S.O. 1st Grade War Office (May 1).

May 17.—R.A.R.O. 2nd Lieutenant R. W. G. Collins ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers (age limit) (April 5).

May 20.—Commands and Staff. The following appointments made:—

A.D.C. Captain C. G. B. Stevens (April 29).

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May 24.—Territorial Army, 4th Battalion, Captain A. V. Spencer, D.S.O., resigns his commission and is granted the rank of Major, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform (May 25).

June 3.—Commands and Staff. The following appointment is made: Military Attaché (G.S.O.) Col. L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, D.S.O. (May 28).

July 15.—Major H. F. Whinney, D.S.O., O.B.E., retired on retired pay (July 16).

R.A.R.O. Major H. F. Whinney, D.S.O., O.B.E. (retired pay) to be Major, July 16, with Seniority, January 1, 1915.

July 26.—Captain G. F. Plowden, M.C., to be Major (July 16).

August 9.—Lieut. A. B. Hamilton to be Captain (July 16).

September 2.—2nd Lieutenants to be Lieutenants, September 3, M. M. Alston-Roberts-West, F. T. Horan, C. Clifton.

October 11.—Commands and Staff. Superintendent of Physical Training. Lieutentant K. S. Jefferson, from Instructor (Cl. F.F.) (October 1).

November 11.—R.A.R.O. Captain F. W. Chippindale, late Militia, to be Captain, August 2, with Seniority, Feb. 1, 1917.

November 18.—Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. Day, M.C., from K.O.Y.L.I. to be Lieutenant-Colonel (October 31) vice Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O., appointed to the Staff.

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November 22.—Lieutenant A. B. Slessor is seconded for service under the Colonial Office (October 12).

Memoranda. Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Colonel to be Colonel. A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O., November 17, with Seniority June 3, 1922.

December 9.—Territorial Army, 4th Battalion. Captain C. B. Crawford to be Adjutant (November 21).

December 13.—Captain G. Naylor, M.C., is restored to the establishment (November 21).

Captain C. B. Crawford is seconded for service as an Adjutant T.A. (November 21).

Territorial Army, 4th Battalion, Captain G. Naylor, M.C., vacates the appointment of Adjutant (November 21).

December 23.—Lieutenant K. S. Jefferson retires, receiving a gratuity (December 23).

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RECORDS OF THE FIRST BATTALION
1927

Roll of Officers—December 31st, 1927.

Lieut.-Colonel.

M. F. Day, M.C.

Majors.

A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O.
J. J. Powell (at Depot).
G. F. Plowden, M.C.

Captains.

C. W. H. Bailie.
H. E. F. Smythe, M.C. (At Depot)
E. A. Packe, M.B.E., D.F.C.
S. C. P. Slattery
J. W. Meade.
B. Burt-Smith, M.C.
L. W. Giles, M.C.
A. B. Hamilton.

Lieutenants.

L. R. Randall (At Depot)
D. S. Newton-King.
M. H. S. Last
C. W. P. Branson.
M. M. Alston-Roberts-West
R. H. Doyne
J. B. Jarvis
J. P. A. G. Graham
Hon. C. B. A. Bernard.
C. Clifton.

2nd Lieutenants.

P. C. Boileau.
T. G. D. Rowley.
G. W. Lathbury.
J. S. R. Edmunds.
H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley.

Adjutant.

Captain and Brevet Major R. J. Brett, D.S.O.

Quartermaster.

Lieutenant E. Smith.

Regimental Sergeant Major.

D. Walshe.

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Bandmaster.
D. Plater, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant.
C. Moody.

Orderly Room Sergeant.
Colour-Sergeant G. Ridgway.

Instructor of Musketry.
Sergeant G. White.

STRENGTH OF FIRST BATTALION. DECEMBER 31, 1927	
Officers	27
Warrant Officers—Class I and II	8
Sergeants	30
Corporals	38
Buglers	15
Privates	462
Total	580

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COMPANIES OF THE FIRST BATTALION.—DECEMBER 31ST, 1927

COY.	COMMANDER.	COMPANY OFFICERS.	COY.SGT.MAJOR.	COY.QR.MR.SGT.
A.	Captain J. W. Meade	Captain L. W. Giles, M.C. Lieutenant C. W. P. Branson 2nd Lieutenant J. S. R. Edmunds	Farindon	North, M.M.
B.	Captain C. W. H. Bailie	Captain E. A. Packe, M.B.E., D.F.C. Lieutenant J. P. A. G. Graham 2nd Lieutenant T. G. D. Rowley	Chantry	Holland
C.	Captain S. C. P. Slattery	2nd Lieutenant P. C. Boileau	Warnock	Norris
D.	Lieutenant D. S. Newton-King	Lieutenant J. B. Jarvis 2nd Lieutenant H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley	Clarke, M.M.	Durn
H.Q. Wing	Major G. F. Plowden, M.C.	Captain B. Burt-Smith, M.C. Lieutenant Hon. C. B. A. Bernard Lieutenant M. M. Alston-Roberts-West Lieutenant C. Clifton 2nd Lieut. G. W. Lathbury	Chalkley	Dudley

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SUMMARY OF FIRST BATTALION DIARY

January 8.—Draft of 33 Other Ranks arrived from the Depot.

January 9.—Lieut. D. S. Newton-King attached to the Regiment pending posting, to either battalion. Authority: W.O.L.P./6318/6 (A. G.2(o)) dated 28/12/27.

January 15.—Captain H. T. Birch-Reynardson retired on retired pay through ill-health caused by wounds.

January 25.—Lieut. D. S. Newton-King reported for duty, and posted to Battalion. W.O.L.P/6318/6 dated 25/1/27.

Information received that Lieut. R. H. Cooke would be cross-posted to 52nd. Authority: W.O.L. P/30828/3 (A.G.2(o)) dated 25/1/27. Posted as from date of embarkation on or about February 20.

February 15.—Major A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O., relinquished command of the Depot, and handed over to Major J. J. Powell. Major A. E. Sanderson posted to the Battalion.

March 3.—2nd Lieut. G. W. Lathbury to England on two months' sick leave which expires May 3.

February 4.—Lieut. R. H. Cooke proceeded from Birkenhead in Freightship *Circassia* to join 2nd Battalion. Authority: W.O.L.B/C/771 QMG2a dated 11/2/27.

February 20.—Draft of 25 Other Ranks arrived from Depot.

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April 11.—Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C., to Depot for a tour of Duty.

April 20.—2nd Lieut. G. W. Lathbury returned from sick leave.

April 27.—A Draft of 27 Recruits arrived from the Depot.

May 3rd.—M.G. Platoon to Bitche for three weeks.

May 5th.—Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C., posted to the Depot for a tour of duty in relief of Captain J. W. Meade; to 1st Battalion. Authority: C.R.B. A.R.33429/A, dated February 4.

May 13.—Information received that Lieut. D. S. Newton-King qualified at short course at R.A.F. School of Army Co-operation.

May 16.—Information received that 2nd Lieut. M. M. Alston-Roberts-West passed a Qualifying Course at the School of Signals, Catterick.

June 3.—Three Buglers proceeded to Ypres for unveiling of 20th Light Division Memorial.

June 16th.—Major H. F. Whinney, D.S.O., O.B.E., retired on retired pay.

Captain G. F. Plowden, M.C., to be Major. Authority: " London Gazette."

August 9.—Lieut. A. B. Hamilton promoted Captain. July 16.

September 3.—2nd Lieuts. M. M. Alston-Roberts-West and C. Clifton promoted Lieutenants.

September 16.—Half 1st Indian Draft, commanded by Lieut. Graham proceeded to Parkhurst.

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September 18.—Second half 1st Indian Draft, commanded by Captain J. W. Meade, proceeded to Parkhurst.

September 30.—Information received that Lieut. A. B. Slessor qualified (Q.I.) at No. 2 Qualifying Course.

October 8.—Information received that Captains E. L. O. Baddeley and A. B. Hamilton will be posted to 52nd.

October 18.—Regiment left Bad-Schwalbach, B.A.O.R., for Parkhurst, I. of W., on change of Station.

October 20.—Regiment arrived at Parkhurst about 1 a.m.

November 9.—Draft of 19 Recruits arrived from the Regimental Depot.

November 19.—Information received that Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Day, M.C., had been posted to command the Battalion vice Colonel A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O., appointed G.S.O. 1 Peshawar Division.

November 23.—Lieut. A. B. Slessor seconded for service under the Colonial Office to date 12/10/27.

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FIRST BATTALION LETTER, 1927

DEAR EDITOR,

The Regiment has completed another year in the Army of Occupation, this time on detached duty. Climatic conditions made outdoor training almost impossible from December to March. Though unutterably dull from the point of view of the officer, the men seemed to enjoy a respite from the multifarious guards, duties, and working parties which are inseparable from life in garrison towns like Cologne and Wiesbaden. Moreover, the married quarters were excellent, and it is not too much to conjecture that there were many families who were genuinely sorry to leave the palaces which were put at their disposal. The Regiment made its own amusements in the winter, such as toboganning, skiing and skating, though the latter were not too often obtainable. The lack of all local facilities for games was much felt, and our one football ground made of clay, sand, and boulders became a morass after rain, and a cement-like agglomeration of hard rock during frost. In order to carry out our fixtures with other Regiments, we had to travel some ten miles in a Ford van over the Taunus Mountains, with little or no prospect of the team concerned arriving intact at the other end. Training during the summer consisted chiefly of hard foot-slogging. A notable example of this was the 2nd Rhine Brigade Test March in September, when the Regiment covered 40 miles in 18½ hours, only a fraction under the rate of march at

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Talavera. The Regiment was composed chiefly of recruits, who three weeks before were at the Depot. The march was completed without a single casualty, a fine achievement by these young soldiers, and one of which they may be justifiably proud. The rest of the training was not of a very high order, owing chiefly to the fact that there was no ground the absolute property of the Government, and the training of formations higher than a Company could not be proceeded with until the crops were cut in late August or September. Nevertheless, the Higher Command was satisfied with the standard of efficiency of the Regiment, which, in spite of unfavourable conditions, marched, shot, manœuvred, and generally compared favourably with the traditions established by our one-time commander, which we are always endeavouring to live up to, and if possible surpass.

After completing three years in the British Army of the Rhine, the Regiment returned to Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, in October, thirty-nine years after its previous visit to that pleasant part of the world. Before leaving Germany the men were congratulated on their behaviour, and the tact and forbearance which they had shown towards the civilian population. Difficult situations arose from time to time, as foreign policy changed and as financial restrictions became more and more irksome. It must be remembered that Germany as a nation has never acknowledged herself beaten. This, coupled with a doubtful atmosphere of enforced goodwill insisted upon by the Locarno conference and exacted by the Rhineland High Commission, caused the Germans in some cases to suspect weakness on the part of the Authorities

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and the Army of Occupation. The rôle of the soldier, therefore, became increasingly difficult. He was in the Rhineland to enforce the Peace Treaty and maintain order; but when difficulties arose, which needed settlement by the civilian High Commission, it was the soldier who was usually pronounced to be in the wrong, and the case more often than not was awarded to the German civilian. Bearing in mind these disadvantages, it has become more than ever evident that the British soldier, be he cockney or ploughboy, is probably "the best ambassador in the world." Even training was made more difficult by the certain knowledge that the Germans would prefer enormous and quite unjustifiable claims for damage wherever the soldier placed his feet. It is sincerely to be hoped that all this will not be interpreted to mean a series of adverse criticisms of the powers that be. It is realized perfectly that foreign policy must change, and, in order to put this policy into effect, sweeping and radical alterations in procedure and methods have to be considered. These remarks, therefore, are intended merely to place on record the fact that the Regiment can still be relied upon to carry out its rôle, even though at times under great provocation.

Perhaps the outstanding feature of the year has been the failure in recruiting, not only for the Regiment but for the whole of the Army. When drafts are completed and the annual wastage in man-power deducted the Regiment will have an effective strength of not much more than 400 men. Deducting from this total those men who are required to fill the Machine Gun platoon, signallers, transport, and other employments, companies will be reduced to cadre

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proportions, and it will be possible for all practical purposes to train the leaders theoretically only, without their troops. This is a truly serious situation, which it is earnestly hoped may show improvement next year.

For the rest we are happy, contented in our new home, and looking forward to the next four years here. We have been almost overwhelmed with hospitality from the Islanders, and invitations to shoot, dine, and dance pour in with the utmost regularity. In fact, they seem to be all out to make us feel at home. The men, too, have given a series of dances and whist-drives which have been patronized to repletion by the people of Newport and district. The hunting cannot compete with the Shires, but if one adopts the motto that all hunting is good, only some kinds are better than others, we can all get two good days' air and exercise a week with a few fences, a lot of wire, and innumerable rabbit-holes.

Yours ever,

43RD.

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RECORDS OF THE SECOND BATTALION
1927

Roll of Officers—December 31, 1927

Lieut.-Colonel.

W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Major.

J. L. Portal, D.S.O.

Captains.

K. Horan (2)
W. L. Barnard
P. Booth (1).
E. A. Smith, M.C.
T. E. Withington, A.F.C.
E. L. O. Baddeley.
H. S. Eagle.
D. C. Colvill, M.C.
W. A. R. Ames.

Lieutenants.

K. S. Wootten.
J. Thorne.
J. E. D. Kilburn.
M. T. Stephens (2).
G. G. Hughes
K. Bayley (1).
R. H. Cooke.
W. T. Yeoman.
W. G. Clarke (2).
J. A. Theobalds (1).
R. T. Conant.
G. C. H. Wykeham.
P. F. Metcalfe.
C. L. C. Ward (2).
F. T. Horan.

2nd Lieutenants.

J. D. Palmer (2)
L. L. Falkiner.

Adjutant.

Lieut. E. C. Richards.

Quartermaster.

Lieut. F. Clare, D.C.M.

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[1] Depot, Oxford.

[2] Leave, England.

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Regimental Sergeant Major.
E. A. Smith, D.C.M., M.M.

Bandmaster.
H. Pipe, A.R.C.M.

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant.
H. Hotine.

Orderly Room Sergeant.
Quartermaster Sergeant G. F. Giles.

Strength of Second Battalion December 31, 1927

Officers	29
Warrant Officers—Class I and II	9
Sergeants	33
Corporals	44
Buglers	16
Privates	851
Total	982

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COMPANIES OF THE SECOND BATTALION—DECEMBER 31ST, 1927.

COY.	COMMANDERS.	COMPANY OFFICERS.	COY.SGT.MAJOR.	COY.QR.MR.SGT.
A.	Captain K. Horan	Lieutenant K. S. Wootten Lieutenant F. T. Horan 2nd Lieutenant L. L. Falkiner	H. Lay, D.C.M., M.M.	J. Keen
B.	Captain T. E. Withington, A.F.C.	Captain H. S. Eagle Lieutenant J. Thorne Lieutenant C. L. C. Ward 2nd Lieutenant J. D. Palmer	C. Bailey, D.C.M.	P. Barlow, M.M.
C.	Captain C. B. Crawford	Lieutenant W. T. Yeoman Lieutenant J. E. D. Kilburn Lieutenant G. C. H. Wykeham Lieutenant R. H. Cooke	J. Watts, D.C.M.	F. Soanes
D.	Captain E. L. O. Baddeley	Captain W. A. R. Ames Lieutenant W. G. Clarke Lieutenant G. G. Hughes Lieutenant P. F. Metcalfe	W. Older, M.M.	H. Benford, M.M.
H.Q. Wing	Captain E. A. Smith, M.C.	Lieutenant M. T. Stephens Lieutenant R. T. Conant	R. Prestney	J. Woodford, M.M.

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SUMMARY OF SECOND BATTALION DIARY

January 1.—Proclamation Day Parade held in Dehra Dun.

January 2.—The Regiment and 2nd Gurkha Rifles under command of Lieut.-Colonel Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O., marched to Mohun (19 miles).

January 3.—The Column arrived at the manœuvre camp at Kheri.

January 13.—Lieut.-Colonel W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O., proceeded on the Meerut District Staff ride till January 16.

Major J. L. Portal, D.S.O., assumed command of the Regiment.

January 16.—The District Commander inspected the Regimental Lines.

January 17th.—The District Commander inspected the Regiment at training.

January 19.—The Regiment under Major J. L. Portal, D.S.O., took part in a Brigade Rear Guard scheme.

January 21.—The Regiment took part in a Brigade defence scheme.

January 22.—The Machine Gun Platoon under Lieut. R. T. Conant took part in a Brigade demonstration.

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January 26.—The Regiment as part of the 17th I. I. Brigade took part in an Advanced Guard operation.

January 27.—The Regiment under Major J. L. Portal, D.S.O., took part in a Brigade night operation.

January 29.—All Officers attended the 18th I. I. Brigade demonstration of Artillery and Machine Guns in the defence at Dhanauri.

January 31.—A Regimental Cadre Class for Non-commissioned officers was started under Captain E. A. Smith, M.C., who ceased to hold the appointment of Brigade Machine Gun Officer from to-day.

"B" and "C" commenced field firing.

February 1.—"B" and "C" Companies finished field firing.

February 2.—"A" and "D" Companies commenced field firing.

2nd Lieut. C. L. C. Ward proceeded to Landour to take up the temporary appointment of Station Staff Officer.

February 3.—The Machine Gun Platoon carried out field firing.

February 5.—The Regiment marched to Mohan (12 miles).

February 6.—The Regiment marched into Gangora Camp (19 miles).

February 7th.—A party of casuals under C.S.M. Bailey, D.C.M., began preliminary musketry. All 3rd class shots included.

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February 14.—Lieut. J. Thorne rejoined from attachment to the British Infantry Training Company, Jullundur, and took over command and payment of letter "B" Company.

February 22.—Extract from London Gazette dated January 28, 1927, 2nd Lieut. C. L. C. Ward to be Lieutenant (January 29).

February 23.—Information received that Lieut. R. H. Cooke had been cross-posted to the 52nd from the 43rd and had already embarked for India.

March 4.—Inspection of books for the Annual Inspection Report of the Brigade Commander.

March 12.—Inspection of the Regiment by the G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command.

March 14.—A draft of 2 Corporals and 130 Other Ranks joined the Regiment having arrived from the United Kingdom.

March 15.—1st Echelon of the Regiment under Captain C. B. Crawford composed as follows marched from Gangora Camp to Jumnipore. "B" and "C" Companies, Rest Camp Staffs, Band, Signallers.

March 16.—1st Echelon marched from Jumnipore to Kalsi.

2nd Echelon (consisting of: "A" and "D" Companies, remainder of Headquarter Wing, Indian Platoon) under Major J. L. Portal, D.S.O., marched to Jumnipore.

March 17—1st Echelon marched from Kalsi to Saiah.

2nd Echelon marched from Jumnipore to Kalsi.

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March 18.—1st Echelon marched into Chakrata.
2nd Echelon marched from Kalsi to Saiah.

March 19.—2nd Echelon marched into Chakrata.

March 27.—2nd Lieut. A. J. W. Macleod, I.A.U.L., proceeded to Alipore on posting to the 3/12th Frontier Force Regiment.

March 29.—2nd Lieut. A. R. E. Walker, I.A.U.L. proceeded to Santa Cruz on posting to the 3/16th Punjab Regiment.

April 4.—Inspection of the Regiment by the G.O.C. United Provinces District.

April 6th.—Lieut. R. H. Cooke reported his arrival on cross-posting from the 1st Battalion and was posted to " C " Company.

May 10.—" A and "D" " Companies and casuals of " B " and " C " Companies started firing Tables R. and L.

May 25.—Buglers ordered to wear green field service caps.

June 1—Regimental button taken into wear by all ranks.

June 3.—King's Birthday Parade.

June 23.—"A" and "D" Companies and casuals of "B" and "C" Companies complete tables R. and L.

July 11.—Re-armament of Regiment begun.

July 15.—Re-armament of Regiment completed.

August 22.—Khaki Field Service Caps ordered to be replaced by all ranks with those of dark green colour as the former become unserviceable, the small bugle (shoulder bugle size of whitemetal) to be worn with the latter.

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September 30.—No. 5378596 Bandsman Collett drowned whilst bathing on leave at Kalsi.

October 18.—Draft consisting of 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal and 28 men left for the United Kingdom on discharge and transfer to the reserve. The Machine Gun Platoon proceeded to Dehra Dun to fire the Annual Machine Gun Course.

October 29.—2nd Lieut. G. W. S. Burton, Indian Army Unattached List, proceeded to join the 1/5th Royal Gurkha Rifles at Abbottabad on posting having completed his year of attachment to the Regiment.

November 2.—2nd Lieut. J. W. H. K. Greenway, Indian Army Unattached List, proceeded to join the 1/8th Gurkha Rifles at Shillong on posting, having completed his year of attachment to the Regiment.

November 4.—The Machine Gun Platoon rejoined from Dehra Dun having completed the Annual Machine Gun Course.

November 11.—Nonnebosschen Day.

November 21.—Captain W. L. Barnard proceeded to the United Kingdom to take up the appointment of Adjutant to the Bucks (T.F.) Battalion of the Regiment.

November 26.—Captain T. E. Withington, A.F.C., assumed Command of the Regiment during the absence on leave of Lieut.-Colonel W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O.

December 1.—A draft of 1 Sergeant, 2 Corporals, 83 men and 4 boys arrived at the Rest Camp, Dehra Dun, from the United Kingdom remaining there under the Command of Lieut. G. G. Hughes to await the arrival of the Regiment.

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Advanced party of the 42nd Royal Highlanders arrived at Chakrata.

December 4.—1st Echelon consisting of "C" and "D" Companies, Buglers, Indian Platoon and Advanced Party left at 8.15 a.m. for Saiah.

December 5.—1st Echelon marched from Saiah to Kalsi.

December 6.—2nd Echelon consisting of "A" and "B" Companies and remainder of the Headquarter Wing left for Saiah at 8.15 a.m.

1st Echelon marched from Kalsi to Jumnipore.

December 7.—1st Echelon marched from Jumnipore to Dehra Dun.

2nd Echelon marched from Saiah to Kalsi.

December 8.—2nd Echelon marched from Kalsi to Jumnipore.

1st Echelon spent the day loading baggage.

December 9.—1st Echelon still loading heavy baggage into trucks.

2nd Echelon marched from Jumnipore to Dehra Dun.

Number of men who fell out from both echelons in the march from Chakrata to Dehra Dun: Nil.

Both Echelons entrained as follows: *1st Train leaving Dehra Dun* 9.30 *p.m.*, Advanced Party (1 Officer and 70 Other Ranks) all heavy baggage. *2nd Train leaving at* 10.30 *p.m.*, 1st Echelon (less Advanced Party). *3rd Train leaving at* 11.30 *p.m.*, Followers and Chargers. *4th Train leaving at* 12 *midnight*, 2nd Echelon. Trains joined as follows at Hardwar: 1 and 2, 3 and 4.

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December 10.—In the train.

December 11.—No. 1 Train slipped and proceeded to Calcutta arriving Howrah at about 7.0 a.m.

All baggage had to be unloaded that day.

The Advanced Party had very hard work, but with the aid of a large working party of the 1st Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment all baggage was carried to Fort William by lorry and dumped there.

Lieut.-Colonel W. H. M. Freestun, C.M.G., D.S.O., assumed command of the Regiment.

December 12.—Regiment detrained at Chatra between 5.15 and 6.0 a.m.

1st Echelon moved off about 7.0 a.m.

Bullock transport very bad and undisciplined.

Road bad and dusty.

Some of the baggage was despatched by train to Rampurhaut the first camp.

2nd Echelon arrived camp Rampurhaut about 1.30 p.m.

Bullock transport arrived about 4.0 p.m.

Schedule capacity of bullock carts was 10 maunds but they would not carry more than 8.

Camping ground cramped, dirty and bad.

Day's march 9 miles.

December 13.—5 sick despatched to Calcutta.

Two truck loads of kits to Mullarpur owing to shortage of carts which were not supplied by contractor.

Moved off 7.0 a.m.

Arrived Mullarpur 10.0 a.m.

Road very bad.

Bullock carts came in about 12 noon.

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Loaded two trucks at 6.0 p.m. for despatch to Suri.
7 sick despatched to Calcutta.
Day's march 8 miles.

December 14.—Contractor having failed to supply bullock carts the night before Commanding Officer decided to send baggage by train to Suri and march there direct making a double march of 25 miles by night and arriving at Suri early morning of 15th.

This was done.

All loading of baggage into railway trucks completed by 12 noon.

Regiment moved off at 4 p.m.

Halted for tea and haversack ration after 15 miles, by 11 p.m. Resumed marching about 3.0 a.m. Road very bad and dusty particularly through the river beds which were deep and sandy.

This caused several sprains and twisted knees.

The baggage was unloaded at Suri by the Advanced party and some sick men sent on by train.

The Regiment arrived at Suri about 6.0 a.m.

Breakfasts finished tents, and kits carried from station and camp pitched by 9.30 a.m.

Night's march : 25 miles.

December 15.—Halted at Suri.

December 16.—Despatched 6 sick to Calcutta.

Moved as usual arriving Hetampur about 11.0 a.m.

Camped in Guest House Compound of Rajah of Hetampur.

Bullock carts in by 1.30 p.m.

Day's march, 14 miles.

In bathing in a tank a signaller was nearly drowned.

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December 17.—Halt at Hetampur.

One sick man (the signaller) was despatched to Calcutta.

December 18.—Moved as usual.

Camped Pandaveswar.

Day's march, 10 miles.

Trouble with bullock carts crossing the Ajay River. They were, however, helped across by " B " Company.

Took over Mechanical Transport consisting of 7 hired motor lorries.

December 19.—Despatched 2 sick to Calcutta.

Moved as usual.

Lorries left camp at 6.15 a.m.

Some did two journeys.

Arrived in camp at Ondal about 11.30 a.m., joining the Grand Trunk Road about 1 mile from Ondal.

Day's march, 15 miles.

Camping ground good.

December 20.—Marched to Gopalpur a distance of 12½ miles.

1 sick man despatched to Calcutta.

Camping ground bad and water was insufficient in quantity and finally failed altogether.

No water for washing available.

December 21.—Marched to Bud Bud 11½ miles. Water failed; there being only enough for cooking, drinking and a little washing.

The Medical Officer proceeded by motor ambulance to Sarul and reported that water supply there was also inadequate so it was decided to march straight through to Burdwan passing Sarul and only remaining there for dinner and a midday rest through the heat of the day.

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December 22.—2 sick to Calcutta.

Moved off as usual.

Dinners were eaten at Sarul.

Regiment marched on from Sarul at 4.0 p.m., and arrived at Burdwan about 9.0 p.m.

Day's march, 25 miles.

Camp at Burdwan had already been pitched in the police compound by the lorry escorts.

Camping ground good but infested with malaria mosquitoes.

December 24–26.—Halted at Burdwan.

Bathing parades held.

Christmas day was observed as a holiday.

Lieut. K. S. Wootten and 2 other sick to Calcutta.

December 27.—Marched to Dulla Bazar, a distance of 1½ miles.

Camping ground good and water plentiful.

December 28th.—1 sick man despatched to Calcutta.

December 28.—Marched to Goara, a distance of 14 miles.

Camping ground good but small, water plentiful.

5 sick men evacuated to Calcutta.

Captain D. C. Colvill, M.C., proceeded to Bombay (having rejoined from leave) on posting to the Depot in relief of Captain P. Booth.

December 29.—Marched to Tarangani, a distance of 11½ miles.

Camp ng ground good but small.

2 sick evacuated to Calcutta.

December 30.—Marched to Gourhati a distance of 15 m les.

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A halt was made at the old Portuguese settlement of Bandal about 9.0 a.m. for a civil reception.

Remained there for dinners and marched again at 3.45 p.m.

Passed through the old Dutch Settlement of Chinsura and the present French Settlement of Chandernagore.

Arrived Gourhati about 7.0 p.m.

Camping ground good, close to the Hooghly.

December 31.—Marched to Rishra a distance of 8 miles.

Camping ground very small and cramped, but fortunately enclosed by a wire fence which kept off the crowd.

Officers' lines in the Hastings Jute Mills.

4 men of the band arrived from Calcutta.

A free entertainment was given.

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SECOND BATTALION LETTER, 1927

DEAR EDITOR,

The record of our doings for 1927 resembles that of he Ishmaelites who were " wanderers and dwellers in tents " ; in fact our tour of India cannot so far be accused of lacking n variety.

We started the year by moving to Kheri Camp for manœuvres where we remained for one month.

The Brigade Training was neither particularly strenuous nor interesting, and the really bright spot was the shooting, which was by no means bad, as our game book will show. Our bag was mainly partridge and peacock.

Early in February we marched back to Gangora Camp after having learnt that our next station was to be Calcutta.

Arrived at Gangora it was not long before we were preparing for our march to the hills for the hot weather.

This duly came off in March without anything unusual happening. There was a good deal of snow still lying about and, of course, the nights were bitterly cold at Chakrata on our arrival.

We settled down into our routine of the previous year ; individual training and musketry, followed by the rains. The rains, with the exception of one bad period, when the road was blocked by landslips for some days, were not particularly heavy.

Mildew gathered on our boots like the dew upon the fleece, but it was generally possible to take some

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form of exercise and moreover we were getting used to the Chakrata climate.

There were the usual monsoon activities in the way of theatricals; a production of "Bull Dog Drummond" by the Officers, "starring" Colvill, and a very successful Regimental Concert Party. Both were excellent and kept a number of us busy through most of July and August, which, after all, was all that they were intended to do.

The end of the rains came in September and then came that most delightful time—the Autumn in the hills.

If it had not been for the lack of open space and the isolation of a small hill station we do not think that anyone very much wished themselves elsewhere.

The time went by quickly enough. Owing to the fact that Christmas Day was to be spent on the march it was celebrated, so far as Christmas dinners and their attendant potations were concerned, on November 17. Thanks to a miracle of ineptitude on somebody's part we nearly had the first draft from England thrust upon us the day we moved from Chakrata.

However, the powers that be finally consented to their being accommodated in the Rest Camp at Dehra Dun for some ten days before the arrival of the Regiment there, during which time it was possible to get them moderately fit after their sea voyage and to equip them more or less satisfactorily for the march.

The march from Chakrata to Dehra Dun of both Echelons was uneventful and we had nothing worse to grumble at than the dust on the roads.

The 1st Echelon had a full two days' work loading heavy baggage at Dehra Dun.

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The 2nd Echelon marched from Jumnipore to Dehra Dun on the day of entrainment whereby they did a full day's work, as the last train did not leave before midnight.

The train accommodation was good, and the only difficulty was to prevent ourselves from suffering from an enlarged liver due to over-eating.

On the morning of December 12 both Echelons arrived at Chatra, our detraining station.

There a large mob of unruly and incredibly "jungly" bullock carts were awaiting us and we rather missed Clare's commanding presence. These carts were reputed to be of 10 maunds capacity, but we found that the owners' goods and chattels occupied so much room that it had to be given up as a bad job and the only alternative was to send part of the baggage by train. This we did, which, of course, saved the Regiment a great deal of trouble and the Government unnecessary expense.

From this day onwards our march was enlivened by continual difficulty in getting the bullock cart contractor to deliver the required number of carts in sufficient time.

Twice he failed, and twice we had to send the baggage by train. As a consequence of this we did one double march of twenty-five miles by night avoiding a camp off the railway to meet our baggage, which had been sent on in trucks hurriedly requisitioned from the local stationmaster.

The stationmasters were generally very helpful and obliging, otherwise we might well have been stranded without food or transport.

The difficulty was that as soon as one lot of drivers

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and bullocks had become accustomed to the sight of white men and had been dragooned into some sort of discipline by dint of much vituperation on the part of Cooke and Sgt. Carter they were promptly changed for a fresh lot and our troubles began again. In addition to this, the dust, bad roads and heat did not make marching more comfortable and with bullock carts we rarely got the transport in before dinners, in spite of an early start at dawn.

The climate and general beastliness of Bengal produced more sickness than we have yet had, chiefly dysentery produced by the dust.

After our long march of twenty-five miles we had a two days' rest, which was a great boon as everyone was incredibly dirty and generally dishevelled.

"Gentlemen in England now abed" may rather laugh at a paltry twenty-five miles being considered a long march. We only ask them to come out and try it here.

After our rest we continued the march and halted a day at a place called Hetampur, where we camped in the Rajah's Guest House Compound.

There we nearly had a fatality through one of the signallers getting cramp in the stomach while bathing in the tank, but Sergeant-Major Bailey just got him out in time.

We were now approaching the Grand Trunk Road and getting into a Colliery District.

It is perhaps worth noting that when we started our march the inhabitants were obviously terrified of us. They had not seen British troops for some sixty years and as they patently did not believe the statement that we were merely on our way to Calcutta

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they hid all their women folk away, evidently expecting murder, rape, and violence.

As soon as they discovered that we were quite harmless individuals they plucked up courage and at Hetampur where they had cleared out for ten miles around before our arrival they flocked in from everywhere to watch us.

Just before we got on to the Grand Trunk Road we bid a heartfelt and thankful farewell to our bullock carts and took over seven real, solid and apparently completely efficient motor lorries. Never before have we travelled in such luxury, as it was possible to have the whole camp pitched before we arrived in.

Sergeant Carter's remarks when he saw the last of the bullock carts are not on record.

The motor lorries actually did not break down and we thought our troubles were over.

However, there is no exhausting the surprises of this delightful country, and, one or two camps farther on, the water started to fail in the wells owing to the fact that the Prince of Wales' Volunteers had used these camps a short time ago ; so there had been no reconnaissance of the camps since they had marched out after using up most of the water.

We went short and did practically no washing at two camps and then did a double march of another twenty-five miles, this time by day, to avoid a waterless camp.

We marched in the early morning and late evening, arriving at Burdwan in the dark. We were fed like fighting cocks and nobody felt particularly tired.

At Burdwan we were camped in the Compound of the Police barracks, quite a pretty spot, but infested

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with malaria mosquitoes even at that time of year. Thanks to our nets we suffered very little.

We stayed at Burdwan over a very sober Christmas and Boxing Day, and then resumed our march.

We now encountered a positively pestiferous individual who dogged our footsteps nearly into Calcutta. This creature, an Indian and a minor official of some kind, had apparently set himself to devise entertainments for us at every camp. Whether this was a political move we never discovered.

The first entertainment, consisting of some dances by the local aboriginals and a peculiarly cruel and brutal form of cock fighting, was not uninteresting, also he had prevailed upon the local worthies to make presents of fruit, vegetables, fish and so on, but the entertainments were repeated at every camp and we were expected to turn out and watch. Moreover, this individual's charm of manner was lost upon most of us, and we thought we should never see the last of him. Just before New Year's Day we reached the banks of the Hooghly and a large Jute Mill district.

These establishments looked amazingly large and prosperous to us, accustomed as we were to the poverty-stricken appearance of military cantonments in the North.

One day's march was rather interesting. It started with a species of reception in the middle of the morning at the old Portuguese settlement of Bandal. Here a most benign old gentleman presented the Colonel with a bouquet, or, as our officious friend of the entertainments had it: "Grand old man of Chinsura will present O.C. with bucket."

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After dinners we marched on through the old Dutch Settlement of Chinsura.

Soon after this we marched into Chandernagore, one of the few remaining French Settlements in India.

Here there was a distinctly Gallic flavour about our reception.

Official permission had duly been applied for, asking that we might march and play our band through French Territory and we were escorted by the local police (in blue plush hats and heavily armed with pistols) down the main street.

After watching the Regiment pass, the Administrator insisted on taking the Colonel and one or two others to partake of a bottle of champagne in the local Government House which, by the way, has a certain amount of historical interest, having been the palace of Dupleix when he was the French Commander-in-Chief in India.

The next day we marched to Rishra the last camp of the march. We were here camped on a small football ground with railings round and space was rather limited. The following day was New Year's Day and the entire staff of the local Jute Mill celebrated it well and truly, even to the extent of one of their number forcing an entry into the Colonel's tent on the morning of New Year's Day in a completely intoxicated condition. This the Colonel took in very good part we thought.

Our ubiquitous provider of entertainments was rather getting on everybody's nerves by this time, but on the evening of New Year's Day he atoned for past sins by hiring a cinema and showing a very good

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" Charlie Chaplin " film in the open air which went down very well.

Early the next morning we were much edified by the sight of various members of the Calcutta Scottish going off to their Proclamation Day Parade in Calcutta.

One imagines that the sight of the Calcutta Scottish arriving *en masse* at their place of parade in hundreds of cars ranging from rich limousines down to the humble but useful Morris must be a sight worth seeing.

The last day's march being through the suburbs of Calcutta was not very interesting. We struck the tarmac some five miles from our late camping ground.

The word " struck " is used advisedly and literally, in fact one might almost say that we " hit it a crack " because it was exceedingly slippery.

As the buglers set foot upon it several staggered and one hit the dust or rather the tarmac.

The Adjutant's charger then slipped up in three directions at once and men slipped and fell at every step.

After a few miles everybody seemed to get more or less accustomed to the surface and the " casualties " ceased. Thanks to the police we were not held up by traffic and we marched into the Fort just as the Proclamation Day Parade was over and nearly bumped into the North Staffords entering through another arch.

We found a standing camp ready for us on the Fort Glacis and this closes the account of our doings for 1927.

It may be of interest that in the whole march from Chakrata to Dehra Dun and from Chatra to Calcutta,

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roughly a distance of 270 miles, portions of which were performed under comparatively trying conditions, notably our first twenty-five mile march when no one had more than two hours sleep in 36 hours, that only 4 men fell out on the line of march and of these 3 were cases of total collapse due to sudden illness.

Yours,

52ND.

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RECORDS OF THE DEPOT, 1927

Roll of Officers—December 31, 1927

Major Commanding.

J. J. Powell.

Captains.

H. E. F. Smyth, M.C.
P. Booth.

Lieutenants.

L. R. Randall.
K. Bayley.

Adjutant.

Lieutenant J. A. Theobalds.

Quartermaster.

Captain A. E. Mason.

Strength of Depot—December 31, 1927.

Officers	7
Warrant Officers	3
Sergeants	10
Corporals	12
Buglers	3
Privates	106
Total ..	141

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Increase and Decrease
(January 1 to December 31, 1927)

Increase.

Joined as Recruits and Re-enlisted Men	196
Joined from Desertion	3
From 1st Battalion	43
From 2nd Battalion	124
From Army Reserve	41
From West African Regiment	1
Total	408

Decrease.

To 1st Battalion	230
Discharged	74
Deserted	4
To Army Reserve	123
To other Corps	39
Total	470

Awarded Long Service and Good Conduct Medals during 1927

5373154 R.Q.M.S. C. A. Pallett.

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DEPOT LETTER

DEAR EDITOR,

There will be few Regimental regrets for 1927. 1928 finds both 43rd and 52nd in better stations.

The year began for us with a crisis. On a peaceful Sunday afternoon, while everyone was feeling in that pleasantly soporific mood which the Englishman's midday Sabbath meal induces, the telephone bell rang rudely. A melancholy voice at the other end announced that until further orders the Orderly Room was to be kept open day and night, and that an officer would be always within reach of the telephone. Sleep was forthwith banished. The Mobilization Scheme was searched for, while the more enthusiastic officers started cleaning their revolvers. Was it war or another general strike? Further messages about face-pieces and containers Mark V star only deepened the mystery.

The solution to the problem was not very thrilling. Twenty-one of our Section A reservists were to be mobilized and sent off to join the Scottish Rifles who were to proceed to China forthwith. They were afterwards christened the "Oxford Scottish" or the "Ox and Jocks." They were followed in April by a further seventeen who joined the Northamptonshire Regiment. Out of forty odd who were called up, all were accounted for, the one or two who were absent all being unable to rejoin. They have all returned, and judging by a letter from the Colonel of the Scottish Rifles they have lived up to the reputation

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of the 43rd and 52nd. It was extremely lucky for us that the 43rd could not be sent, or we should have shared the fate of our less fortunate brethren in the Queen's and Welch Regiments, and been moved to Dover or Tidworth or some equally depressing spot.

The trouble in China seemed to stimulate recruiting as our enlistments filled one squad in January, two in February, and one in April. Then there was a bad lull, as after one in May we were only able to produce one more in August, and a final platoon in November. Ever since October there have only been two squads, and there is nothing more depressing than an empty depot—particularly as the amount of work to be done does not seem to diminish in proportion!

Hunting fills another page. It will suffice here to say that I think last season can be recorded a good one. The Regimental Race was held as usual, while the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment challenged the Depot to a race at the Craven Hunt Point-to-Point on neutral ground. The annual race against the Rifle Brigade unfortunately could not be arranged.

There have been three changes during the year. Powell has succeeded Sanderson in command, Smyth has taken Meade's place as Training Officer, while Booth has departed for India, and we await Colvill who is becoming Administrative Officer in his place. Sanderson and Meade keep several horses here still, and appear here frequently, I am glad to say.

Our cricket team, thanks to the able captaincy of Smyth, and in spite of the weather, had a real good season. Randall is keeping up Thorne's good work in the hockey field, while football and boxing are going strong.

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Taken all round Depot sport is in a very healthy condition, as a glance at the records for the year will show.

The Cricket week was a great success, both from a cricket and social point of view. Large numbers braved the elements on the Saturday and Monday, and apparently enjoyed themselves, although they had to hide their garden party frocks under mackintoshes.

The Depot Officers' dinner and dance went off with its usual swing, thanks to the efforts of the Mess Staff, ably led by Mr. Jones, and the 43rd Band. We were very lucky to have the latter with us for several months on and off in the summer, and it was a pleasant change to hear the strains of martial music once more.

The moment the social activities of June were over, we had to start preparing for the Tidworth Tattoo. Day after day small bodies of people could be seen performing weird evolutions with pikes and antiquated muskets to the accompaniment of " Here come the boys of the old Brigade " and other equally antiquated tunes.

To Tidworth we departed at the end of the month, and judging by the amount of space the *Morning Post* devoted to us, and by the congratulations we received, we must have succeeded in entertaining the public for the ten minutes we were " on."

For cub hunting we had the only decent weather of the year, a few weeks of warm weather in October, and it was extraordinarily pleasant to hack out early, and to stand sunning oneself outside covert.

The present hunting season has not been very good so far. Frost and snow have confined us to barracks for the best part of a month, while continuous rain

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has made the going as heavy as it possibly can be. Real good days have been very few so far.

The Cowley "hunting-box" seems to grow in popularity, as in addition to Crosbie and Wynter coming at the beginning of the year, Wynter's Captain, Whatton, came in November for two months. May they spend many more pleasant leaves here. We extend a hearty welcome to a fellow light infantryman in the person of Colonel Day, and hope that he will be able to spare the time to visit us here frequently.

Quite a number of our Territorial officers have passed through during the year, while the 4th Battalion had an Easter camp in barracks.

I hope the 43rd and 52nd will do even better this year in the sports world than they did in 1927. We are doing our best to turn out the right stuff at this end.

Yours,
DEPOT.

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THE REGIMENTAL DINNER, 1927

LIST of Officers who attended the Regimental Dinner held at The Hotel Metropole, Northumberland Avenue, on Friday, June 17, 1927:

Lieut. M. M. Alston-Roberts-West.
Air Vice-Marshal Sir H. R. M. Brooke-Popham, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.F.C.
Colonel A. G. Bayley, C.B.E., D.S.O.
Colonel F. T. H. Bernard.
Lieut.-Colonel G. Blewitt, D.S.O., M.C.
Lieut.-Colonel C. S. Baines, D.S.O.
Lieut.-Colonel A. J. N. Bartlett, D.S.O.
Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Ballard.
Major R. J. Brett, D.S.O.
Captain E. T. C. Bower.
Captain P. Booth.
Captain E. L. O. Baddeley.
Lieut. K. Bayley.
Brig.-General G. N. Colvile, D.S.O.
Colonel E. R. Clayton, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Lieut. C. Clifton.
Major-General H. R. Davies, C.B.
Brig.-General Hon. A. E. Dalzell, C.B.
Lieut. R. H. Doyne.
Lieut. H. J. C. Ducat-Hamersley.
Brig.-General A. J. F. Eden, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Colonel C. H. Frith, C.B.E.
Major C. Fitzgerald.
Captain L. W. Giles, M.C.
Lieut. J. P. A. G. Graham.
Major-General Sir J. Hanbury-Williams, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., C.M.G.
Brig.-General C. G. Higgins, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Air Commodore F. V. Holt, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Lieut.-Colonel R. G. H. Hughes.
Major F. J. Henley.
Major C. F. Henley.
Lieut. G. G. Hughes.
Lieut. K. S. Jefferson.
Lieut. J. B. Jarvis.

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Lieut.-Colonel R. D. Keyworth.
Brig.-General F. G. L. Lamotte, C.M.G.
Colonel E. A. E. Lethbridge, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Lieut.-Colonel R. C. Luard.
Lieut. M. H. S. Last.
F. C. L. A. Lowndes, Esq., M.C.
Lieut. G. W. Lathbury.
Brig.-General W. Marriott-Dodington, C.M.G.
Lieut. P. F. Metcalfe.
Lieut.-Colonel G. S. F. Napier.
Captain G. Naylor, M.C.
Lieut.-Colonel C. Parr, C.B.E.
Lieut.-Colonel B. C. T. Paget, D.S.O., M.C.
Major J. J. Powell.
Major A. C. M. Paris, M.C.
Lieut.-Colonel H. L. Ruck-Keene, D.S.O., O.B.E.
Lieut. L. R. Randall.
Lieut. T. G. D. Rowley.
Colonel F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G.
Major A. E. Sanderson, D.S.O.
Major R. Stephens.
Captain H. E. F. Smyth, M.C.
Lieut. J. A. Theobalds
Lieut.-Colonel J. T. Weatherby, D.S.O.
Captain E. H. Whitfeld, M.C.

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WEAPON TRAINING, 1927

Second Battalion

The re-armament of the Regiment took place very soon after the completion of classification.

Had this been done before classification the results might have been otherwise, for our old rifles which had evidently been salvaged from some forgotten dump in France in the rage for economy could not have been termed weapons of precision by any stretch of imagination.

Average by Companies in Table R. (India)

Company	Numbers fired.	Average.
"A" Company	127	76.21
"B" Company	129	76.8
"C" Company	123	77.93
"D" Company	121	77.78
Headquarters Wing	150	81.1

Regimental Average: 77.96.

Average by Companies in Table L. (India)

Company.	Numbers fired.	Average.
"A" Company	34	126.47
"B" Company	36	123.1
"C" Company	29	110.24
"D" Company	36	103.83

Regimental Average: 115.91.

Average by Companies in Revolver

Company.	Numbers fired.	Average.
"A" Company	13	73.91
"B" Company	12	74.9
"C" Company	10	74.01
"D" Company	13	70.2
Headquarters Wing	18	74.7

Regimental Average: 73.54.

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Machine Gun Classification

Numbers fired.	Marksmen	1st Class.	Qualified.	Average.
61	26	14	21	270.54

Company Shots.

	Score.
"A" Company: Tie, L.-Cpl. Revell, Pte. Bradshaw ..	111
"B" Company: Cpl. Alsford	113
"C" Company: Sgt. May	110
"D" Company: Tie, C.S.M.I.M. Prestney, Pte. Collier	108
Headquarters Wing: L.-Cpl. Mouring	117

Best Shot of Warrant Officers and Sergeants.

Sgt. May.

Best Shot of Corporals and Privates.

L.-Cpl. Mouring.

Signalling, 1927

Owing to the absence on leave of the Signalling Officer the Annual Classification Tests for 1927 have not yet been carried out.

Training has been seriously interrupted by the move to Calcutta and we are in the midst of a short period of intensive training for the Individual and Collective Tests.

Proficiency in Semaphore has considerably increased and a short course for two Non-commissioned officers per Company has done much to secure uniformity of system.

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ATHLETICS, 1927

First Battalion

Bad Schwalbach again—and nowhere to train, except on the football ground and Kurhaus paths—the latter much to the indignation of the populace; however, a couple of starting guns and some blank generally removed the above. Company Sports all went off most successfully, with the band functioning at each, or rather until they went off to England again, May 24 to be exact: I often wonder why we have a band!—and the next time we saw them was at Parkhurst in October. However, that's neither "here nor there!" and as I have already said Company Sports all went off most successfully. Not so the Regimental Sports; we got through the preliminary day and were all ready for the "Big day," dozens of tents and marquees all pitched and ready, the endless preparing of the track, when Boanerges took a hand in the matter, and by the time the Sports were due to start the ground was completely under water—and it was still raining. Well, finally it was decided to postpone the day, and July 14, nearly a month later, was fixed on. Exactly why July 14 I can't remember, but, of course, there are a few other things to be done about that time of the year. The day dawned bright and warm, and though friend Boanerges threatened us again about tea time, we finished a very pleasant afternoon without a drop of rain. "X" Company won the Inter-Company Athletic Shield, with "C" Company 2nd,

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" Y " Company 3rd, " D " Company 4th, " A " and " B " Companies a tie for 5th and 6th places.

Mention must be made of the Transport Race, in which the rider of a mule had to collect a bottle of beer for the " succour " (let us say) of his comrade; the said comrade, having drunk his beer, had to mount back to back with his other half and gallop to the winning post. Truly a most original and most entertaining race and I regret to say only 4 out of 10 starters finished. The A.O.F.B. Inter-Company Relay was again won by Regimental Headquarters, and the way Pte. Sadler put his bottle of Bass down was a treat to watch!

The results of the individual races are given below:

Pole Jump.—1, L.-Cpl. Webb, 9 ft.; 2, L.-Cpl. Smart; 3, Pte. James.

High Jump.—1, Sgt. Harcourt, 5 ft. 3 in.; 2, Lieut. West; 3, Lieut. Graham.

Long Jump.—1, Lieut. Graham, 21 ft. 5 in.; 2, L.-Cpl. Jones; 3. Sgt. Harcourt.

Putting the Shot.—1, Pte. Bassett, 31 ft. 11 in.; 2, C.S.M. Clarke; L.-Cpl. Webb.

100 Yards.—1, Lieut. West, 10 4/5 sec.; 2, Lieut. Boileau; 3, Sgt. Harcourt.

100 *yards* (*under 2 years*).—1, L.-Cpl. Tremblett; 2, Br. Hobbs; 3, Pte. Tarbox.

220 *yards.*—1, Lieut. Bernard, 23 4/5 sec.; 2, Lieut. West; 3, Pte. Hamblett.

220 *Yards* (*under 2 years*).—1, Pte. Tarbox; 2, L.-Cpl. Tremblett; 3, Pte. Garland.

220 *Yards* (14–16).—1, Boy Carney; 2, Boy Hopkins; 3, Boy Everett.

220 *Yards* (16–18).—1, Boy Whitton; 2, Boy Sheldon; 3, Boy Last.

440 *Yards Challenge Belt.*—1, Lieut. Bernard; 2, Lieut. Boileau; 3, Sgt. Fuller.

440 *Yards* (*under 2 Years*).—1, Pte. Tarbox; 2, L.-Cpl. Tremblett; 3, Pte. Reading.

880 *Yards.*—1, Sgt. Fuller, 2 m. 13 2/5 sec.; 2, Sgt. Lucas; 3, Pte. Cooke.

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880 *Yards* (*under 2 years*).—1, Pte. Briggs; 2, Pte. Reading; 3, L.-Cpl. Turk.

1 *Mile Challenge Belt*.—1, Pte. James, 4 m. 37 2/5 sec.; 2, Sgt. Lucas; 3, Bdsn. Busby.

3 *Miles*.—1, Sgt. Lucas, 16 m. 37 4/5 sec.; 2, Pte. Keep; 3, Sgt. Burnell.

Throwing the Hammer.—1, C.S.M. Clarke, 85 ft. 4 in.; 2, Lieut. Jarvis; 3, Sgt. Ireland.

Inter Platoon Relay.—1, No. 11 Platoon; 2, No. 7 Platoon; 3, No. 14 Platoon.

Inter-Company Relay.—1, "X" Company; 2, "Y" Company; 3, "C" Company.

After the Regimental Sports we had a fortnight to train our team for the Rhine Army Championships. These were held on the Stadium ground in Wiesbaden, which has a cinder track of sorts but not too good.

We won these sports easily, with a total of 53 points, with the 2nd R. W. Fusiliers 2nd with 41 points, and our old friends the K.S.L.I. 3rd with 37 points.

It was a great effort on everybody's part and was fully deserved for the trouble and time we had spent on training a team. We can only hope that next year we may be able to go one better and repeat the effort in the Army Athletic Team Championships at home.

Cross Country Running, 1927

As everyone knows who has been to Bad Schwalbach, the place affords little scope for sport taken as a whole, however, for our cross-country runners no place could have been more suitable. We always took our dogs with us, and as far as the actual running went I think they probably enjoyed it more than we did.

We decided to have three runs to decide the Inter-Company championship; one of 3 miles, one of 4, and one of 4½ miles. The first race was won by "X"

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Company, with "D" Company a good 2nd; the second race was held in a blizzard and snowstorm, and in this race "D" Company turned the tables on "X" Company somewhat easily; so much so that there was some little "feeling" in the matter, seeing that one or two certain bright spirits in a certain company displayed a remarkable reversal of form on their previous performances, however, no doubt, "Mercury" had been giving them a few tips. In the last race "X" Company again beat "D" Company, but not by a big enough margin to prevent "D" Company winning on the aggregate of the three. The Final order was: 1st, "D" Company; 2nd, "X" Company; 3rd, "Y" Company; 4th, "C" Company; 5th, "A" Company; 6th, "B' Company.

During February we had several friendly matches with other regiments, in order to try and find, and train, a team for the Rhine Army Championship. And, as last year, we won most of these matches, but were never able to defeat the Worcesters. That regiment sent a team over to England for the Army Championship and finished a very good 4th to the D.C.L.I., Grenadier Guards, and 3rd Tank Corps, and so accordingly we did not expect to beat them in the Rhine Army Championship. That race was held in April in Wiesbaden, starting from the Stadium and finishing there after a difficult $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Lieut. Graham won the race for the second year in succession, and our Team was second, beaten by the Worcesters, as we expected; nevertheless all ran exceedingly well and I think were quite pleased to see the close of a rather long season.

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Bayonet Fencing

The Inter-Company Competition was held on Sunday, March 27, when "Y" Company emerged the winners after a closely contested struggle. In the preliminary stages:

"B" Company	defeated	"D" Company	7	fights	to	4
"C"	"	"	"A"	"	7	"	"	0
"Y"	"	"	"X"	"	7	"	"	2

Semi-Finals

"C" Company defeated "B" Company 7 fights to 1

The Final round was most exciting, "Y" Company starting off by winning the first three fights. "C" Company then crept up until the score was 5 fights all. "Y" Company, however, won the next 2, deciding the Competition.

Second Battalion

Waterloo Day, 1927—The Individual Sports.

Our annual endeavours to discover the best all-round athlete were held successfully on the Regimental Parade Ground at Chakrata.

Although the Monsoon was with us it obligingly held off for the day, and we were very lucky in having perfect weather.

The following is a list of events and results which counted towards the cup for the best athlete.

100 *Yards*.—1, L.-Cpl. Philpin (Headquarter Wing); 2, Pte. Kendall ("D" Company); 3, Pte. Coddington (Headquarter Wing).

220 *Yards*.—1, L.-Cpl. Philpin (Headquarter Wing); 2, Pte. Coddington (Headquarter Wing); 3, Pte. Bolton ("A" Company).

440 *Yards*.—1, L.-Cpl. Philpin (Headquarter Wing); 2, Pte Speake ("D" Company); 3, Pte. Slade ("D" Company).

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880 *Yards.*—1, L.-Cpl. Watkins ("B" Company); 2, Pte. Mapstone ("B" Company); 3, Pte. Johnson ("A" Company).

1 *Mile.*—1, Pte. Joyce (Headquarter Wing); 2, Pte. Triggs (Headquarter Wing); 3, Pte. Woodley ("B" Company).

High Jump.—1, Sgt. Dean (Headquarter Wing); 2, Cpl. Bishop (Headquarter Wing); 3, Pte. Boscott ("D" Company).

Long Jump.—1, Pte. Holdsworth ("D" Company); 2, Cpl. Bishop (Headquarter Wing); 3, L.-Cpl. Jones ("B" Company).

Weight.—1, Pte. Graves ("A" Company); 2, Pte. Hinds ("C" Company); 3, Pte. Barrett ("A" Company).

Hurdles.—1, L.-Cpl. Kendrick ("D" Company); 2, Pte. Boscott ("D" Company); 3, L.-Cpl. Rose ("B" Company).

The Cup for the best Athlete was won by L.-Cpl. Philpin (Headquarter Wing).

In addition to the above there were a number of other events, serious and comic, the most important being the Boys' Race for Mrs. Davies' Cup, which was won by Boy Perkins, Boy Hatcher being 2nd and Boy Britton 3rd, and the Inter Platoon Tug of War, won by No. 6 Platoon, with No. 8 Platoon as runners up.

The others and less serious events have been fully recorded in the JOURNAL.

GENERAL ATHLETIC NOTES

With the end of the athletic year in March, points were totalled up and Companies were found to stand as under:

Company.	Football.	Hockey.	Cricket.	Boxing.	Cross Country Running.	Bayonet Fencing.	Sports.	Total.	Order of Merit.
"A"	21	0	0	21	0	35	0	77	4th
"B"	10	0	10	35	21	0	35	111	2nd
"C"	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	21	5th
"D"	0	10	21	10	35	10	10	96	3rd
H.Q.	35	35	35	0	10	21	21	157	1st

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The Trophy was accordingly presented to Headquarters Wing on Church Parade by the Commanding Officer.

Various innovations were agreed upon for the coming Athletic Year, it was decided that in future Headquarter Wing was to be divided into two groups for all games and athletics.

Headquarter A to consist of Machine Gunners and Signallers.

Headquarter B to consist of Band and Buglers and No. 3 Group.

It was also decided to start a Rugby Football League when the Regiment reached Calcutta, points to count towards the Athletic Trophy.

The system of scoring has also been revised and in future all games and events are to be marked equally, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, any company failing to compete in any event to score 0.

In the event of a tie between companies at the end of the Athletic Year, the company which was best placed in the Inter-Company Sports to win the Trophy.

It was decided to reinstitute the Standard Tests as under :—

(*a*) 100 Yards in 13 seconds ; (*b*) ½ Mile in 2 minutes 50 seconds ; (*c*) Long Jump, 14 feet ; (*d*) High Jump, 3 feet 10 inches.

Everybody under 35 years of age, on the Ration Strength of his company to compete.

These were duly held in early October, the results being as follows : " B " Company, 12 points ; Headquarters A, 10 points ; " D " Company, 8 points ; " C " Company, 6 points ; Headquarters B, 4 points ; " A " Company, 2 points.

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Everybody is looking forward to Calcutta. where at last we shall have plenty of opportunities for all kinds of games and sports, and we are especially looking forward to meeting outside teams, and thereby improving our standard of play at all games.

In the above connection we have already had enquiries from a Calcutta newspaper as to what we played and what we didn't. We had great pleasure in answering " Everything " !

Nonnebosschen Day, 1927

In contrast to November 11, last year, which felt more like winter sport than anything else, Nonnebosschen Day turned out fine and sunny, in fact an ideal day for the Annual Inter-Company Competition for the Athletic Shield.

The meeting started at 10.0 a.m.; at 11 o'clock there was a short interval to observe the two minutes' silence and at about noon activities ceased until the afternoon. Companies brought their teas down to the ground and had a picnic meal, during which the Regimental Gymnastic team under Wootten gave a most excellent display.

This year all events were team events and the method of scoring had been altered so that every company scored something provided its team finished intact.

At the start of the day " B " Company were the holders of the Athletic Shield and a close fight was expected between them and " D " Company. Throughout the greater part of the day " D," " B," " C," and Headquarter B were in very close running which

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kept up a keen interest in every event. In the afternoon however, "D" Company by winning the ½ mile, 220 yards and getting second place in the Relay Race in quick succession, drew away from the others and won a comfortable and well-deserved victory.

As regards performance, the best event of the day was undoubtedly Hughes's effort in the High Jump. He retired still unbeaten, having cleared 5 ft. 5½ in., with Sgt. Dean a good runner-up. Pte. Joyce won a good mile race, though the time was nothing remarkable; however, at a height of 7,000 ft. good times, except in short races, cannot be expected. Ames put up a great effort for his company in the ½ mile. Ward as usual ran well, but this year was too much handicapped by having to make up for the rest of his team's deficiencies.

The "bonne bouche" in the form of the Officers *v.* Sergeants Tug-of-war came at the end.

Last year a special challenge cup was presented by the Colonel for the event, it was promptly and easily won by the Sergeants who have already come to look upon it as a Sergeants' Mess fixture. This year, however, the Officers' team turned out a dark horse by winning both the pulls fairly comfortably, only to find at the end that the Sergeants could not produce the cup.

It had already been packed and sent on to Calcutta.

The Method of Scoring and Summary of Points were as follows:

1st	6 points	4th	3 points
2nd	5 „	5th	2 „
3rd	4 „	6th	1 „

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SUMMARY OF POINTS

Company.	100 Yards Relay.	220 Yards Relay.	440 Yards Relay.	880 Yards Relay.	Relay Race.	1 Mile Relay.	Hurdles.	High Jump.	Long Jump.	Weight.	Tug-o-War 110 Stone.	Tug-o-War. Catch Weight.	Total.
"A"	3	4	4	3	1	1	6	2	1	2	4	3	34
"B"	6	3	1	5	3	5	3	4	4	4	2	6	46
"C"	5	2	5	2	6	3	2	3	6	6	3	1	44
"D"	4	6	3	6	5	4	5	6	5	5	5	5	59
H.Q. "A"	1	1	2	1	2	2	–	1	3	3	6	2	24
H.Q. "B"	2	5	6	4	4	6	4	5	2	1	–	4	43

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

The Annual Cross Country run took place at Dehra Dun on March 9, over a course of about 3½ mile.

The country round Dehra does not at all lend itself to this form of amusement, as deep and stony nullahs occur frequently in every direction, and while providing an excellent point-to-point course for the herds of goats which abound, it is hardly suitable to the likes of us, being rather too conducive to sprained ankles.

However, the President of the Athletic Committee (who was not running) eventually evolved a course, which he assured us was not too bad, at any rate there was only one nullah to be negotiated.

The race started at 3 p.m. from the Royal Artillery Parade Ground at Gangora under a very hot sun; all companies turning out as strong as possible.

The course was marked clearly by the aged and

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infirm with flags, and to obviate short cutting at the two farthest points competitors had to receive a daub of paint on the arm, this was found to be a great improvement on the old Bath-Ticket method, as it was much quicker.

The race was won easily by C.S.M. Bailey, " B " Company, Bugler Joyce, who came in second, would have made a race of it, if he had not fallen in the canal, Pte. Johnson, " A " Company, was third.

It had been decided that the Company which got 30 men home first should win, and there was an exciting moment when " B " and " D " Companies each got 28 men in, however, " D " got the next two, and so won a very good race.

Headquarter Wing were third.

Bayonet Fencing

The Inter-Company Bayonet Fencing took place during the Monsoon.

Every Company made a great effort, and nearly every man entered, with the result that we found ourselves with 16 Pools to fight off, not counting the final pool.

It was originally intended to fight three pools simultaneously, one in the Gymnasium and two outside, but the weather was such as to make this impossible, and finally nearly every pool had to be fought inside.

This made it rather a long business, and though we started early in August, we didn't get through the competition till the end of the month.

The results were as follows: " A " Company, 12

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points; "B" Company, 10 points; "D" Company, 8 points; "C" Company, 6 points; Headquarter B, 4 points; and Headquarter A, 2 points.

The final pool in the Individual Competition was won by L.-Cpl. Hinds, "C" Company.

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CRICKET, 1927

First Battalion

This noble game at Bad Schwalbach was really rather a farcical proceeding, and the break of three years in the cricketing life of the Regiment has had the effect of producing little or no new talent. We have had no ground of our own of any kind, and have had to depend on a part share of the Command ground in Wiesbaden, which, though it possessed a wicket of the matting variety, was so overworked that it was almost impossible to secure more than half a day's play at comparatively long intervals. The result was that the same people were called upon time after time to play for the Regiment, in spite of the fact that there was, and is still, hidden talent which circumstances made it impossible to exploit.

Besides a certain number of friendly matches we entered as a matter of course for the Rhine Army Championship. Having drawn a bye in the first round, we met the 85th Light Infantry in the second, and in spite of rain which curtailed seriously each day's play, we managed to pull off a victory by 14 runs.

Our next opponents were our old friends, the 7th Fusiliers, who—incidentally—were hot favourites throughout the command. They were a very good batting side indeed on paper, but possessed only one bowler of any great merit, Lex Sutton, who, though bowling medium-fast, remained on throughout both innings. We were set to get 178 in the fourth innings, and thanks to a really great innings of 100 not out by

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West and stonewall tactics at the other end by Bandsman Busby, we just won by the odd wicket. In the final we played the Worcestershires, only a moderate side, but who always seem to have their lucky day out when playing against us. Three dropped catches in their first innings cost us about 100 runs, and then, with the exception of Graham who kept his end up nobly, the rest of us "rabbited" ourselves out against bowling which ought not, and in other matches would not, have bothered us at all. We were only beaten by 41 runs, but previous form should have reversed that verdict by "that much and then some."

Taking it all round we had the makings of a good average side with a tail which might wag vigorously at any moment. Giles, Smith, West, and Cpl. Millett could nearly always be called upon for 50 apiece, while Graham and Cpl. Willoughby could be relied upon (*pace* missed catches!) to return our opponents to the pavilion at a modest cost.

Now that we are in the Isle of Wight with a real ground of our own, we are looking forward much to the improvement of our play all-round. The Depot week is a joy to come, and none the less enjoyable because we happen to be in England and not still on the Rhine. The arrangements are invariably so excellent and the cricket itself so delightful that we shall continue to look upon "Depot week" as the real plum of the cricketing year. Long may it continue and flourish.

The regular players this year were: Brett (captain), Giles, Smith, Doyne, Graham, West, Hamersley, C.Q.M.S. Dudley, Sgt. Millett, Cpl. Willoughby,

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Bds. Busby, with Rowley in reserve, and last but not least, R.S.M. Whitton, who lifted his hand impartially when appealed to by either side.

Depot Cricket

The great joy of cricket at the Depot is its variety. One day you may be playing on a good wicket, such as the one at the Depot or one of the Oxford College grounds; the next on a cleared space in a hayfield.

The village cricket side on its own ground is often a tough proposition. Their bowlers know all the hills and valleys in the pitch and use them with good effect. Their batsmen, understanding the limitations of the wicket, realize that the best policy is to hit and go on hitting. There are no drawn matches. It is an understood thing that the daylight fixes the hours of play and not any arbitrary arrangement about drawing stumps.

We had quite a good season in 1927. Up to the end of July we had won 12 and lost 8 matches. Unfortunately the scoring book for the last half of the season has been lost. We were fortunate in being able to call on Mr. Grant, our tailor at the Depot, and Sgt. Ponting, now a permanent staff instructor in the 4th Battalion.

C.Q.M.S. Bull hit lightheartedly on all occasions, often with great success.

Randall and Mr. Grant were, perhaps, our most consistent batsmen.

Most of the wickets were taken by Smyth and Bayley. The following played regularly for the Depot side: Captain Booth, Captain Smyth, Lieut.

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Randall, Lieut. Bayley, C.Q.M.S. Bull, Mr. Grant, Sgt. Ponting, Sgt. Arnold, Pte. Jackson, Pte. Long, Pte. Freeland, Pte. Foskett, Pte. Smith, Pte. Seers, Recruits Skelding and Park.

The Regimental Cricket Week

June 18 to *June* 22, 1927

The Regimental Cricket Week of 1927 followed the same lines as its predecessors except in the matter of weather, which was generally cold and uninviting. Rain fell on Tuesday, June 21, but only sufficient to delay till lunch time the start of the match against Lieut.-Colonel Wynter's R.H.A. XI.

The regimental day, as usual, was held on the Saturday, Waterloo Day, when about 60 officers and their wives attended the regimental luncheon in the Depot Officers' Mess. The regiment was "At Home" to its friends from the two counties on the Saturday and on Monday, June 20. The attendance was unfortunately not so strong as in the previous years, this undoubtedly being caused by the inclemency of the weather. The 43rd Band was again in attendance and did sterling work throughout the week.

In the cricket we won three matches but suffered defeat at the hands of Colonel S. E. Ashton's XI on the first day. On the Monday our cancelled match of the previous year against the 2nd Battalion The Rifle Brigade was brought off; this we trust will now become an annual fixture in the cricket week.

The results of the matches were as follows :—

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FIRST DAY—JUNE 18, 1927

Innings of Lieut.-Colonel Ashton's XI.

H. Aubrey Fletcher, b. Millett	97
J. Boscawen, b. Smith	10
J. T. Weatherby, b. Millett	16
H. L. Leedham Green, c. Giles, b. West	5
F. Wylie, c. Eyston, b. Willoughby	25
R. E. Pethrick Jones, b. Graham	2
T. Mott, b. Graham	6
R. F. Robson, b. Smith	11
C. C. Blagden, not out	17
N. Dixon, b. Millett	0
S. E. Ashton, b. Millet	0
Extras	22
Total	211

Innings of the Regiment

Capt. L. W. Giles, st. Wylle, b. Green	31
Mr. E. Smith, c. Blagden, b. Fletcher	32
Mr. E. Grant, b. Fletcher	5
Capt. C. J. Eyston, c. Boscawen, b. Green	30
Cpl. Millett, run out	22
Capt. H. E. F. Smyth, c. and b. Jones	0
Mr. J. P. Graham, b. Green	0
Mr. M. M. A. R. West, c. Jones, b. Green	11
Major R. J. Brett, b. Fletcher	5
C.Q.M.S. Dudley, not out	0
Cpl. Willoughby, c. Green, b. Fletcher	0
Extras	6
Total	142

Cpl. Millett took 4 wickets for 10 runs.

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REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK, 1927.
2ND BN. THE RIFLE BRIGADE *v.* THE REGIMENT.

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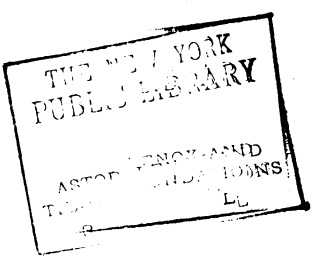

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SECOND DAY—JUNE 20, 1927

Innings of the Regiment

Capt. L. W. Giles, b. Partridge	22
Mr. E. Smith, lbw., b. Gore	11
Capt. C. J. Eyston	27
Cpl. Millett, b. Gore	36
Capt. H. E. F. Smyth, b. Garmoyle	16
Major R. J. Brett, b. Garrett	55
Mr. R. Doyne, b. Gore	3
Mr. J. P. Graham, b. Gore	5
Mr. M. M. A. R. West, c. Fry, b. Partridge	14
C.Q.M.S. Dudley not out	16
Cpl. Willoughby, b. Gore	7
Extras	7
Total	219

Mr. A. C. Gore took 5 wickets for 86 runs.

Innings 2nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade

Bdm. Edge, b. Graham	9
Lord Garmoyle, b. Willoughby	4
Capt. T. J. B. Bosvile, b. Graham	5
Capt. M. R. Harvey, b. Graham	17
A. C. Gore, b. Millett	51
Maj. R. O. Bridgeman, c. Willoughby, b. Graham	7
C.Q.M.S. Partridge, not out	7
Captain H. B. Norcott, b. Millett	11
L. C. Garrett, b. Millett	2
J. C. Garnett, st. Dudley, b. Millett	2
E. W. L. Fry, absent hurt	
Extras	11
Total	126

Mr. J. P. Graham took 4 wickets for 40 runs.
Cpl. Millett took 4 wickets for 9 runs.

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THIRD DAY—JUNE 21, 1927

Innings of Colonel Wynter's XI

C. G. Nicholson, b. Graham	27
G. K. Harman, c. Willoughby, b. Graham	1
I. A. Hurst, lbw., b. Millett	24
R. J. B. Snook, c. and b. Graham	35
Captain Neville, b. Smith	5
Colonel H. W. Wynter, c. Giles, b. West	5
T. A. Sinclair, lbw., b. Millett	9
F. S. Sigers, st. Dudley, b. Willoughby	7
Pte. Jackson, c. Hamersley, b. Graham	4
Gr. Brown, c. Randall, b. Willoughby	11
Br. Green, not out	18
Extras	8
Total	154

Mr. Graham took 4 wickets for 61 runs.

Innings of The Regiment

Captain L. W. Giles, c. Green, b. Sinclair	11
Mr. E. Smith, st. Neville, b. Brown	7
Cpl. Millett, b. Sinclair	17
Mr. M. M. A. R. West, not out	63
Mr. L. R. Randall, b. Harman	1
Mr. J. P. A. G. Graham, b. Harman	9
J. Ducat Hamersley, b. Sinclair	26
Capt. H. E. F. Smyth, not out	14
Extras	14
Total for 6 wickets	162

Mr. R. H. Doyne, C.Q.M.S. Dudley and Cpl. Willoughby did not bat.

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FOURTH DAY—JUNE 22, 1927

Innings of the Regiment

Captain L. W. Giles, run out	6
Mr. J. Ducat Hamersley, b. Norris	10
Mr. M. M. A. R. West, c. Cox, b. Osborne	84
Cpl. Millett, b. Holiday	114
E. Grant, b. Cox	40
Mr. G. Hughes, b. Holiday	31
Captain H. E. F. Smyth, not out	8
C.Q.M.S. Dudley, not out	1
Extras	27
Total for 6 wickets, declared	321

Innings of the Bicester Hunt

Major Osborne, b. Millett	5
D. Whitton, lbw., b. Willoughby	44
G. Norris, b. Willoughby	33
G. Passmore, b. Willoughby	15
G. Holiday, b. Whitton	6
Captain Ellames, b. Whitton	12
Colonel J. T. Weatherby, not out	28
A. Cox, lbw., b. Willoughby	0
W. Weatherby, b. Whitton	7
F. Eldridge, b. Willoughby	0
Captain Hay, b. Willoughby	0
Extras	15
Total	165

Cpl. Willoughby took 6 wickets for 62 runs.

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FOOTBALL

First Battalion

We finished our last football season in Germany very satisfactorily. Our final position in the Rhine Army League was third, this being a big improvement on the result of the previous year when we were last. From the New Year onwards, when our regular team had all returned from leave, we only lost one match, and that to the eventual winners of the league, namely, the Royal Welch Fusiliers.

By this time we had decided on our best team for the Rhine Army Knock-out Cup, in the first round of which we met the Royal Fusiliers at Idstein. The entire Regiment came and supported the team from the touch, but were rather disappointed to see us three goals down at half-time. However, during the second half, spurred on by frenzied cheering from the touch-line, we eventually won by 4 goals to 3.

In the semi-final we had the bad luck to meet the K.S.L.I., who beat us 4–2 and finally won the Cup. This finished Regimental Football for the year.

We ran a successful Company league, on our rather poor ground, at Bad Schwalbach, instead of the usual knock-out competition for the Cup. " D " Company who possessed a well-balanced team are to be congratulated on winning this.

We opened the next football season with a few League games in Germany, but were unable to start seriously until we arrived at Parkhurst.

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We then entered the United Services "A" and "B" Leagues and found that we were now playing a totally different class of football from that on the Rhine. The Regiment took some time to settle down to playing on grass again and consequently we lost our first few matches. However, as soon as the leave season was over, we started to improve rapidly and have lately been winning most of our matches, one of the best victories being over H.M.S. *Excellent*, who are the League champions.

On November 17th we played the Royal Scots Fusiliers in the 2nd round of the Army Cup, having drawn a bye in the first round. We had hardly settled down in Parkhurst when we played this match, and lost 2—0, after a very good game. However, we hope to improve considerably on this next year.

Second Battalion.

Owing to the fact that we had only one Football ground at Chakrata, our football activities were necessarily limited to the Inter-Company League.

A few matches were arranged against teams from Kailana, but there again we were unlucky, as the teams we met from detachments at the Hill Depot were at the best only good Company teams, and as such were hardly up to our Regimental side.

The Inter-Company League was played off at Chakrata in two rounds, the first round was played off before the Monsoon finishing in the first week of June, and the second round in October and November.

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The result was as under :—

Headquarter A, 12 points ; " D " Company, 10 points ; " C " Company, 7 points ; Headquarter B, 7 points ; " B " Company, 4 points ; " A " Company, 2 points.

Depot Football

We have lost several of last season's players, but we have got some useful fresh blood from the 43rd, notably our new Captain, Cpl. Stallwood.

We have entered for the :

Oxfordshire Junior Shield,
Oxfordshire Junior League,
Oxford City Junior League.

In the Shield we reached the fourth round before we were defeated by Thame in a good game (3—2).

In the City League we are at the top of our section in Division I, and unless we are unlucky we ought to remain there.

In the County League we have only played two matches, winning one and losing one.

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HOCKEY, 1927

First Battalion

Of all our games in the past four years hockey has suffered more severely than others. No ground to start with, which means inability to train our young players. The result has been that once again we have had to call on the greybeards, who, stout-hearted as they are, should long ago have been relegated to the bowling green and dart-board. We played a few friendly games on the Rhine, with varying success; the gravel pitches, fast and not too true, taxed the wind and legs of the old 'uns to the utmost capacity, and an encounter against a younger side usually spelt disaster. In the cup-tie we met the Manchester Regiment in the first round, and thereafter the competition knew us no more. This was a great pity, and we writhed under a defeat which would certainly not have occurred a few years ago. Now that we have our own ground we look forward to better times, and the Companies will have a chance of producing material on which the Regiment will be able to work. This year it was impossible to carry out even a Company knock-out competition, but next year it is hoped that we shall be able to give practice to even smaller formations. We have already played a few matches against civilian sides, and though we cannot be said yet to be a " made " team, yet we have performed very creditably, and some young blood is already beginning to appear. It is a pity that the

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season up to now has been such a phenomenally wet one, making accurate passing and shooting at goal very difficult. Nevertheless, we are at least on grass again, and we can look forward to a prosperous future even though our past may have been murky.

Second Battalion

Exactly the same remarks apply to our Hockey activities as to Football.

We had only one hockey ground, and consequently have done very little but play off the Inter-Company Hockey League, which was played in the same way as the Football League—in two rounds—one before and one after the Monsoon.

The results were as follows :—

"A" Company, 12 points; "C" Company, 9 points; Headquarter B, 9 points; "D" Company, 6 points; "B" Company, 4 points; Headquarter A, 2 points.

Depot Hockey

The following fixtures have been played so far this season : —

October 12.—*v.* Wallingford. Away. Won, 7—1.
October 17.—*v.* Magdalen College. Away. Won, 4—3.
October 20.—*v.* Depot the Worcestershire Regt. Away. Won, 3—0.
October 27.—*v.* Lincoln College. Away. Lost, 1—4.
November 3.—*v.* Christ Church. Away. Lost, 0—2.
November 8.—*v.* Wadham College. Home.—Drawn, 2—2.
November 10.—*v.* Magdalen College. Home. Won, 2—0.
November 16.—*v.* Trinity College. Away. Lost, 1—4.
November 18.—*v.* Wadham College. Away. Won, 5—0.
November 23.—*v.* Captain Whitfield's XI. Home. Won, 6—3.
November 25.—*v.* Depot Royal Berkshire Regt. Home. Won, 3—1.

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A glance at the fixture card will show that the season so far has been very successful, only three reverses being registered there against College sides, against whom most members of our side realize that they are not as young as they used to be.

We had good games with our two neighbouring depots, and are looking forward to playing the third, *i.e.*, the Royal Warwickshire Regimental Depot in the near future.

We are lucky in having C.Q.M.S. Bull as our mainstay at centre half, as ever a most indefatigable player.

L.-Sgt. James has done extremely well at left half, and Sgt. Hawtin who tackles and hustles a lot, is right half.

Bayley and Sgt. Ponting, who is as keen as ever and turns up regularly for us from Headquarters of the 4th Battalion, are the backs, and stem the enemy's attacks with great vigour and determination, and, considering the amount of work they have been called upon to do, have been very successful.

The forwards, led by Smyth, who has scored most of the goals at centre, have had far more sting than last season, and on their day combine well and look quite fast. The outside left position has been very successfully filled by Pte. Haynes, who centres with terrific vigour, on one occasion rather detrimentally (to his inside man), and gets goals. Cpl. Stallwood, a welcome new-comer to the side this season, and Randall are the insides, while L.-Sgt. Flexen who has come on a lot this season has played outside right.

Pte. Freeland has kept goal excellently.

Our ground now, thanks to Pte. Haynes and his

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pony, compares favourably with any in Oxford. In fact as most of the College grounds are under water at the moment, it looks as if we will have frequent demands to play at home during the second half of the season.

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BOXING

First Battalion

Looking back on the boxing during the past year, one can safely say that it has been very successful and has set a new standard, which we hope will improve each year. The two main factors which have caused this are, the presence of Captain Baddeley and the inauguration of the Inter-Company League. The Thursday evening meetings, with 4 companies putting 11 boxers into the ring, produced not only very interesting programmes, but great keenness from competitors and spectators. Captain Smyth's Cup was eventually awarded to "B" Company after being very keenly contested by all Companies.

Actually "B" and "C" Companies tied for 1st place with 18 points, but as "B" Company had won the majority of "A" League Matches they were adjudged the winners.

The results in the aggregate of "A" and "B" Leagues were as follows:—

Coy.	Fought	Won	Lost	Points		Total
				For	Against	
"B"	10	8	2	76	45	18
"C"	10	8	2	77	60	18
"A"	9	4	5	61	58	13
"X"	9	4	5	49	68	13
"Y"	9	2	7	47	66	11
"D"	9	2	7	55	10	11

In the Inter-Company Knock-out Competition held on March 28 and 29, "C" Company went right

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through to win. In the 1st round they beat "B" Company by one point; after that they won by more comfortable margins.

The winners of the Regimental Belts were as follows:—

The Henley Middleweight.—L.-Cpl. Wood, "A" Company.
Welter.—Pte. Turk, "B" Company.
Light.—Bdsm. Davis, "H.Q." Wing.
Feather.—L.-Cpl. Abbott, "A" Company.
Bantam.—L.-Cpl. Jotham, "A" Company.

In the Rhine Army Competitions, the Regiment figured more prominently than hitherto, which is undoubtedly a proof of the great improvement in the standard of boxing in the Regiment.

The results were as follows:—

INTER-REGIMENTAL KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION

Boys.—1st Round beat 8th Hussars 3—1. Semi-final lost to 66th Regiment 0—4.
Novices.—In Semi-finals lost to 66th Regiment.
Open.—1st Round beat K.S.L.I. 5—2, Semi-finals lost to 23rd Fusiliers 3—4.

Our defeat of the K.S.L.I. might be said to have been unexpected as they had some very good boxers, but the semi-finals was undoubtedly the best performance of the season, although we were defeated. The team was composed as under:—

Bantam.—Pte. Baxter won on points.
Feather.—L.-Cpl. James, k.o. 3rd round.
Light.—Bdsm. Davis, won on points.
Welter.—Cpl. Chamberlain, k.o. 2nd round.
Middle.—Pte. Turk, knocked his man out 2nd round.
Light Heavy.—L.-Cpl. Wood, lost on points after the best fight of the evening.
Heavy.—L.Cpl. Walder, k.o. 1st round.

In the Rhine Army Individual Competition, Captain Baddeley was too good a match for the officers' middle weight; he won all his fights very easily.

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Boy Hobson reached the finals, while Bdsn. Davis was beaten in the semi-final by the ultimate winner.

Bandsman Davis and L.-Cpl. Wood were selected to represent the Southern Command against the Royal Air Force. The former, who is in a class by himself in the Regiment, won his fight, while the latter was awarded the best loser's prize in the whole contest, and put up a really magnificent show against a more experienced man.

Unfortunately our return to England has been too late to permit us to enter a team for the Army Championships this season, but with prospects of being able to engage an instructor, it is hoped that the standard of boxing within the Regiment will continue to improve and put us in the honours list next season.

Second Battalion

Four separate Boxing Competitions were held in the Regiment at Chakrata during July: Open, Novices, Boys, and Inter-Company Teams. Points in each competition counted towards the Boxing Shield and the Athletic Trophy.

The Open, Novices, and Boys' Competitions were held on the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th July, and the results were as follows :—

Open

Catch Weight.—Pte. Collis, " B " Company.
Middle Weight.—Pte. Collis, " B " Company.
Welter Weight.—Pte. Benfield, " B " Company.
Light Weight.—Pte. Benfield, " B " Company.
Feather Weight.—L.-Cpl. Brades, " D " Company.
Bantam Weight.—Pte. Payne, " B " Company.
Fly Weight.—Pte. Dennett, " D " Company.

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NOVICES

Catch Weight.—Pte. Hard, "B" Company.
Middle Weight.—Pte. Waldram, "A" Company.
Welter Weight.—Pte. Robey, "B" Company.
Light Weight.—Pte. Munk, "C" Company.
Feather Weight.—L.-Cpl. Clarke, "B" Company.
Bantam Weight.—Pte. Cossey, "C" Company.
Fly Weight.—Pte. Lively, "C" Company.

BOYS' COMPETITION

Bantam Weight.—Boy Perkins.
Fly Weight.—Boy Busson.

The Inter-Company Team Competition was held on July 26; all Companies entered a team except Headquarter A.

The results were: "C" Company 1st, "D" Company 2nd, "B" Company 3rd, "A" Company 4th, and Headquarter B 5th.

The final results for the Shield were as follows: "B" Company, 11 points; "D" Company, 11 points; "C" Company, 8 points; "A" Company, 6 points; Headquarter B, 4 points; Headquarter A, 0 points.

52ND BOXING TEAM AT MUSSOORIE

The following represented the Regiment at the Annual Boxing Competitions at Mussoorie: Catch Weight, L.-Cpl. Hoye, "D" Company; Heavy Weight, Pte. Collis, "B" Company; Middle Weight, L.-Cpl. Bullock, Headquarter Wing; Welter Weights L.-Cpl. Jones and Pte. Robey, both "B" Company; Light Weight, Pte. Benfield, "B" Company, and Pte. Brown, "D" Company, extra man; Feather Weight, L.-Cpl. Murphy, Headquarter Wing; Bantam Weight, Pte. Dagger, "B" Company.

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In the first round we were drawn against the Sherwood Foresters, and lost to them by one fight, the results being as under :

Catch Weight, L.-Cpl. Hoye lost on points.

Heavy Weight, Pte. Collis was knocked out in the 3rd round, after a very hard fight.

Middle Weight, L.-Cpl. Bullock was knocked out in the 3rd round after a very hard fight.

Welter Weights, L.-Cpl. Jones was knocked out in the 1st round, Pte. Robey won a very good fight on points.

Light Weight.—Pte. Benfield won very easily on points.

Feather Weight, L.-Cpl. Murphy won easily on points.

Bantam Weight, Pte. Dagger lost a hard fight on points.

The Individual Competitions followed the Team event, and we were well represented with the following results :

Heavy Weight, Pte. Collis was knocked out in the 3rd round of the 1st fight.

Welter Weight, Pte. Robey lost on points in the 1st round after a very good fight.

Light Weight, Pte. Benfield won the Competition in his weight, winning all his fights on points, until the Final when he knocked his man out in the first round.

Feather Weight, L.-Cpl. Murphy was knocked out in the 1st round by Cpl. McKnight, 2nd Royal Irish Rifles. L.-Cpl. Andrews won all his fights up to the semi-finals, when he lost the best fight seen there to Cpl. McKnight on points.

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Fly Weight, Pte. Dennett won all his fights up to the Semi-final, when he lost a very close fight on points.

L.-Cpl. Murphy won a special 3 round contest by knocking his man out in the 2nd round.

In all, the Regiment brought away 5 Cups—Pte. Benfield getting two, L.-Cpl. Murphy getting one, and L.-Cpl. Andrews and Pte. Dennett each getting a well-earned best-losers cup.

Depot Boxing

1927 has shown a higher standard of boxing at the Depot, largely due to the efforts of C.S.M. Bennett of the Army Physical Training Staff, who has gone about it with such enthusiasm that he has infected the recruits. Naturally enough most of those recruits who have appeared in the ring have not displayed much skill owing to lack of experience, and lack of control over arms and legs. But one lesson, which the Commanding Officer has been drumming into everyone has been learnt, and that is that it is no use appearing in the ring unless you are absolutely fit, and there has been a decided improvement in that respect in the last six months.

Quarterly inter-platoon boxing competitions have been held regularly and have all been evenly contested. That at the end of October was not as exciting as the rest owing to there only being two platoons.

Two inter-depot competitions have been held, in which our recruits showed that they could hold their own.

That against the Depot of the Worcestershire Regiment we lost by 5 fights to 6, while against the

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Depot of the Royal Berkshire Regiment we avenged a defeat of a previous year by 6 fights to 5.

In addition to these we had a contest against the Cowley Health and Strength Club in aid of the Cowley Schools. Our team, which was mainly composed of recruits, was smaller and less experienced than the opposing team, and the result was very satisfactory being three fights won, three drawn, and six lost.

On the whole we have seen what we want, and that is plenty of clean, hard fighting, while the best loser's prize has often been extremely hard to award.

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THE REGIMENTAL RACE, 1927

THE Regimental Race for the Orman Cup, presented by Lieut.-Colonel Guy Blewitt, was run as usual in the South Oxfordshire Hunt Point-to-Point on March 3, at Poppet's Hill, near Stoke Talmage, over the same course as in 1926. Captain Meade had again taken on the duties of Honorary Secretary for the meeting and was responsible for all the very excellent arrangements.

The weather was distinctly kind, for although a cold wind was blowing hard, yet the day was fine, the first for several days. The going was heavy but drying in the wind and far better than the previous days' rain had led us to expect.

The course consisted of some 18 hazards, all of which had to be jumped, for they looked black and strong enough to bring down any horse.

A description of the race is given below in two chapters.

Chapter I

Woodbine jumped off in front of his field, closely followed by Sportsman and Ferryman, with Erigal leading the middle division and Afgar whipping in. This order was maintained past the " stands " as far as the fifth fence, when Ferryman moved up into the lead with Rexthorpe close on his heels, while Woodbine fell back a place. Ferryman continued to make his own running at a slightly faster pace till past the post and rails where Erigal and Rexthorpe closed with

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him, Rexthorpe and Ferryman jumped the water together and Erigal fell. Three furlongs from home Ferryman challenged Rexthorpe, who was now beat, and went on in front. In the meantime Ballard who had been riding a waiting race on Dragon Fly moved up. Ferryman slipped badly taking off at the last fence and Doyne lost an iron, whereupon Dragon Fly took the lead and, very well ridden by his owner, won a great race by half a length from Ferryman, who never quite recovered his balance again, with Rexthorpe fifteen lengths away third and Sportsman fourth.

Chapter II

By " The Rearguard "

The rearguard got off just behind the remainder in the order Erigal, Gamble, the Monk, Afgar.

After the third obstacle Erigal promoted himself to the first division.

The heavy going between the fifth and seventh fences strung out the field and still further increased the gap between front and rear. The seventh fence, an open ditch, had to our relief decreased considerably in size since the previous day, when we had walked the course, and in fact the actual fence had almost ceased to exist.

At the eleventh fence Gamble refused, owing to his owner riding " jolly " and the Monk moved up one place.

The timber was successfully negotiated, but what a sight presented itself on arrival at the brook.

Erigal apparently thought it was Saturday night and was lying on his back in the bath with one leg reaching

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out for the soap. All that could be seen of his rider was a hand brandishing a whip which was emerging from the troubled waters. The gallant general " with elbows and legs," and oathing heavily drove the hesitating Monk over the aqueous hazard.

Gamble and Afgar arrived together on this scene of blasted trees and withered grass. But the by now almost evaporated brook completely deterred these two belated arrivals who dug their toes firmly in, and in spite of their jockeys' efforts, made it quite clear that they had no intention of joining the mudlarks. So the rear file gave up the forlorn attempt to catch the leaders and waited patiently for Jimmie Meade and his mount who were by this time being extricated by the hunt servants.

In conclusion it should be recorded that when Jimmie Meade was undressed in the dressing tent, a couple of tiddlers were found in his boots, while an old frog was spawning in his waistcoat pocket.

The following is a list of starters :—

Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Ballard's b.m. Dragon Fly. Owner .. 1
Mr. R. H. Doyne's ch.g. Ferryman. Owner .. 2
Mr. C. R. Parson's br.g. Rexthorpe. Owner 3
Major A. E. Sanderson's r.g. Sportsman XII. Mr. M. H. S. Last 0
Captain E. H. Whitfeld's b.m. Woodbine. Owner .. 0
Brig.-General C. G. Higgins' br.g. The Monk. Owner .. 0
Captain J. W. Meade's b.g. Erigal. Owner 0
Captain P. Boothe's ch.g. Afgar. Owner 0
Mr. J. A. Theobalds' b.g. Gamble. Owner 0
Mr. L. R. Randall's b.m. Lorna Doone. Owner 0

Lieut.-Colonel J. T. Weatherby's ch.g. Steve was also entered, but did not start.

Amongst those present were: Brig.-General Eden, Brig.-General and Mrs. Higgins, Air Vice-Marshal Brooke-Popham, Colonel and Mrs. Ames, Colonel

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Clayton, Lieut.-Colonel Ruck-Keene, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Bartlett, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Ballard, Lieut.-Colonel Luard, Lieut.-Colonel Hunter, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Paget, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Weatherby, Major Baines, Major Henley, Major Mockler, Major Terry, Major Sanderson, Major and Mrs. Spencer, Major and Mrs. Powell, Captain and Mrs. Holt, Captain and Mrs. Bailie, Captain and Mrs. Naylor, Captains Whitfeld, Meade, Smyth, Booth, Messrs. Theobalds, Doyne, Last, Randall, and Bayley.

Team Race

Depot v. *2nd Battalion the Cheshire Regiment*

Run at the Craven Hunt Point-to-Point Meeting at Shefford Woodlands, near Hungerford on April 6, for a cup presented by the Craven Hunt.

Weather: Fine, rather cold and windy.

The race was run over a good course, all grass and over mostly artificial fences.

The Cheshires went off in front at a good pace, as we had hoped with the Depot in rear. One Cheshire horse, out of control, crashed into and fell at the first fence. The order of the Depot team at the first fence was Sportsman, Paddy, Happy Days, Lorna Doone and Afgar. At the third fence, Hassall on Charley's Gift, ran out and never affected the race again. At the fourth fence, an open ditch, at which there had been a good deal of grief in previous races, Lorna Doone slipped in and both she and Randall turned a somersault. At the fifth fence, another open ditch, there was a further casualty leaving four of the Depot team and two of the Cheshires still in the race.

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After the double, sixth and seventh fences, Paddy closed up to Sportsman with Happy Days and Afgar behind and the two Cheshires some way in front. At the tenth fence, Miss Meadows, the eventual winner, fell, but got off again level with Sportsman and Paddy and quickly regained her lead. Paddy now began to draw ahead of Sportsman. At the thirteenth fence, which was on a bank on the far side of a sunken lane, Broken Cross, who had been running second, fell and was passed by Paddy and Sportsman, but his jockey remounted and came on again fourth. Paddy now went off in pursuit of the leader, with Sportsman and Broken Cross about thirteen yards behind and Happy Days and Afgar some distance in rear going strongly. This order was maintained until the penultimate fence, when Sportsman's rider nearly left the plate and was passed by Broken Cross. Miss Meadows won by 1½ lengths from Paddy with Broken Cross about thirty yards behind closely pursued by Sportsman. Happy Days, who was dead beat, refused at the last fence and could not be persuaded to jump, but Afgar came in and thus won an exciting race for the Depot by two points.

The team on its order of finishing was :—

Captain G. Macnaught's Miss Meadows. Owner	1st 8 pts.
Captain J. W. Meade's Paddy. Owner	2nd 7 pts
Mr. S. V. Keeling's Broken Cross. Owner ..	3rd 6 pts
Major A. E. Sanderson's Sportsman, Mr. Theobalds	4th 5 pts.
Captain P. Booth's Afgar. Owner	5th 4 pts.
Major A. E. Sanderson's Happy Days. Major Powell	
Mr. L. R. Randall's Lorna Doone. Owner.	

Total.—Depot, 16 points; 2nd Bn. the Cheshire Regiment, 14 points.

Amongst those who were present were Brig.-

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General and Miss Eden, Brig.-General and Mrs. Higgins, Colonel and Mrs. Lethbridge, Colonel Clayton, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Ballard, Major Sanderson, Captains Whitfeld and Neville, and Mr. Hughes.

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HUNTING, 1927

In the Isle of Wight

It may seem a bit premature to talk about hunting in a country of which we have only two months' experience, but after three years in Germany the sport of kings is such a wonderful relaxation that we feel we must give utterance to the exuberance of spirit which all of us feel in wearing once again the pink, the black, or the rat-catcher.

The Island is hunted by three packs, the foxhounds, the harriers, and the beagles. If there was no consideration other than the chase we could put in six days a week easily, with an occasional "bye" on Sundays with an assortment of long dogs after rabbits. The majority of us, however, having collected a strange assortment of alleged horses, confine our attentions to the pursuit of Charles James on Mondays and Fridays, with an occasional bye-day on Thursdays. "Jacko" Packe, on the other hand, has enlisted as an unpaid and honorary whip of the beagles, and chases Emma the jelly twice a week o'er hill and dale to the admiration of us all and the detriment of his shoe-leather. Long may his wind last.

To return to our muttons, the object of this article. There are twenty-four members of His Majesty's Forces at present actively employed as commissioned officers in the Regiment. Of these, twenty follow the chase as best they may on nags of different hue;

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one prefers to use Shanks' pony; and three others take their pleasures in other ways, all of them legitimate within the accepted meaning of the term. Comparisons are odious, records are invidious, but it is a matter of congratulation that everyone is engaged in some form of sport or other during the winter months. The protagonists of hunting may say that there is no other form of recreation; the experts with the gun may scoff at those who try and kill one poor lone beast with twenty couple of bloodthirsty dogs; the man with the rod may extol the skill which he is called upon to display in the landing of a thirty-pounder; yet the principle underlying all sport is the same, good sportsmanship and an inherent love of the chase derived from our ancestors and handed down from father to son.

We seem to have digressed; not an unnatural thing, when it is realized that all this was written on the evening of a hunting day, after "master" had been to see his quads. tucked up in bed, and perhaps himself had—shall we say—a couple of glasses of port. How necessary it is in these days to go round your stable daily, especially on hunting days, at uncertain times. Are they being fed right, had the saddles touched them after a long day, has the mud been cleaned off everywhere, and the thorns removed, are they bedded down properly, had they got their bandages on, are they feeding or are they too tired to feed, are their feet picked out clean, above all are they dry? This may seem nonsense to some who have good and tried grooms, but how many grooms in these days can you trust absolutely to carry on if you yourself have to be elsewhere. This

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season we have started a hunting stable with a civilian stud groom in charge. The grooms are soldiers selected for the job and pooled so that economy can be effected. Forage and stable necessaries are bought by the officer running the stable, with the result that the maximum number of days hunting can be got with the least possible cost to individuals.

The master of the Isle of Wight hounds is an old friend of some of us, one Tony Bovill, who used to be in the 9th Lancers, and whose father lived at Smeeth Paddocks in the East Kent country where the Regiment had many a good gallop when at Shorncliffe. He hunts the Isle of Wight himself, and in spite of difficulties generally shows good sport. The country is crammed full of foxes, too many if possible, which says much for the owners and keepers of the many pleasant coverts for which the island is well known. The Island itself is roughly divided into three parts. The woodland or eastern end is heart-breaking, big coverts and little chance of getting away from them. The vale is an area drawn through the centre of the island from east to west, very heavy going in wet weather and almost unrideable after prolonged storms. The Down country, which is situated along the south of the island is a stronghold of foxes, light to ride over, and easy to get across. Wire is the curse of all hunting here and is to be met nearly everywhere. Except on the Downs, where rabbit-holes are the only pitfalls for the unwary, it is almost impossible to ride to hounds. In fact it is not unusual, when the pack is seen progressing due west, for the field to be seen galloping due east in order to circumvent one of these birdcages. It takes a stout-

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hearted horse, too, to finish a day's mountaineering which some of the meets involve. The hills are quite precipitous, and until one gets to know the lie of the country one is apt to follow hounds up and down with disastrous results to horse-flesh. The more cunning ones, however, go round and seem to get there just as quick, which is at once disheartening and not good training for the young enthusiast.

Perhaps on the whole it is a good thing we are not in the Shires at the moment. Many of us are new to the game, and are learning much hunting lore. We are allowed a good deal of grace in this country, and hunting manners which have to be bought wherever we may be are acquired at a reasonable price. After four seasons here, though the actual riding may not be as thrilling as elsewhere we shall at least have learnt when not to " holloa," how to open a gate, and how to treat a farmer and his property with due respect.

At the Depot

Season 1927–8 *up to December*, 1927

In spite of the late harvest and rather backward season this year, the South Oxfordshire Hunt commenced their cubbing season at the end of August as usual. There were plenty of cubs, and during October we actually had some fine weather, and we all had very enjoyable mornings with them.

The opening meet was on October 31, at the Three Pigeons as usual, and quite a gathering attended from here: Powell and Smyth who have secured two excellent mounts from the 3rd/6th Dragoon Guards at

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Tidworth; Sanderson and Meade up from the Isle of Wight, the former on the veteran Maureen, and the latter on his latest acquisition, Rebel Girl; Theobalds on his Gamble, and Bayley now the owner of Afgar. Randall unfortunately could not attend, as his mare, Lorna Doone, has injured her hip joint.

The morning had been very wet early and scent was very patchy. After finding Chown's Gorse blank, hounds hit a line in Dropshot Spinney and drove on to Spartham Bog where several foxes were on foot. Running nicely, however, they went away past Latchford Spinney, crossed Haseley Brook and kept on past Upper Standhill where scent apparently gave out. Haseley Wood next provided a fox and quite a nice hunt ensued back to the Three Pigeons.

At the beginning of November, Whatton, Wynter's 2nd-in-command, came to stay with four horses, and cheered things up. He hunted with the South Oxfordshire and Bicester Hunts. Sanderson and Meade who kept two horses apiece here, managed to get an odd hunt on their week-ends from the "Island" before their leave started.

An excellent day with the Bicester on December 10 from Aston-le-Walls was enjoyed by Sanderson, Meade, and Graham, who snatched a day off from Hythe and was trying out his newly acquired Fiery Star. Finding an outlier near the village, hounds raced to Warden Hill and killed. Going away again they headed for Chipping Norton, turned right-handed to Byfield Reservoir, ran through Redhill and killed their fox after a good hunt of 2½ hours. Another hunt of an hour followed with a fox from Hales, hounds finally killing near Warden Hill.

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In the middle of December, hunting was stopped for a week by hard frosts, and again from December 23 until the end of the year by heavy snow and frost. This and the fact that the country is already pretty deep makes us fervently hope for better weather in the New Year. We are looking forward to the visit of Wynter and Crosbie again this year. They are bringing four and three horses apiece which brings our total to 23 in the stable. This in fact overflows us, but we have found other stabling conveniently close.

Mr. Skillings, our head groom, is still with us, and does good work in keeping some of our not too sound horses on their feet, and getting the best out of them all round.

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SHOOTING IN INDIA

Second Battalion

The year opened with manœuvres at Kheri Camp and during that period various parties going out on the off days, which were fairly numerous, accounted for 130 head of small game and one crocodile.

The small game were mainly partridge and a certain number of pea fowl.

Some of the officers, when out shooting duck, were unfortunate enough to outrage the religious susceptibilities of some of the local inhabitants by slaying two sacred pea fowl, which nearly caused a riot.

In early March Stephens made a rush for his beloved Kashmir and returned in ten days with a barasingh.

During March and April Ames and young Horan had a most successful shoot in the C.P. resulting in 4 tiger besides other game, and also very nearly resulting in a vacancy for promotion to Captain, as a tiger wounded by Horan charged them both at about 25 yards but was fortunately stopped.

In April Colvill and Barnard accounted for a bison apiece in the neighbourhood of Belgaum, besides other game.

It is rumoured that Barnard's bison lay down and died of starvation because it was so heavy with lead it could walk no farther.

The rest of the year consisted mainly of excursions round Chakrata.

Richards spent September trout fishing in Kashmir

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and later a week's mahseer fishing on the Doon. With regard to the mahseer although his brother officers are quite decided on this point, Richards is not yet certain whether his failure to catch the 40-lb. mahseer he hoped for was due to bad luck or his own incompetence with a fishing rod.

During the march to Calcutta we were singularly unlucky in passing through very bad districts.

Thanks largely to the energy and good shooting of the Colonel we managed to account for 70 snipe, but we were bitterly disappointed as we had hoped for great things.

An extract from the game book is given below :—

1927

BIG GAME

Bison	2	Barking Deer	1
Tiger	4	Nilghai	1
Sloth Bear	2	Black Buck	2
Sambhur	1	Tahr	1
Spotted Deer	6	Gooral	15
Boar	4		

SMALL GAME.

Hares	5	Teal	15
Pea fowl	16	Snipe	82
Spur Fowl	1	Kalij Pheasants	6
Jungle fowl	6	Monal Pheasants	2
Grey Partridge	68	Koklass Pheasants ..	5
Black Partridge	5	Cheer Pheasants	1
Chikor	7	Kulan Crane	5
Quail	14	Green Pigeon	4
Duck	12	Blue Rock Pigeon ..	2
Snow Pigeon	1		

FISH

Trout	14 (Best fish 2½ lbs.)
Mahseer ..	21 (Best fish 3⅜ lbs.)

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POLO

Second Battalion

February to November, 1927

Up to the time a team was collected and entered for the Infantry Cup in February, we had been labouring under peculiar difficulties. The greatest of these was the collection of ponies suitable for the individual for whom they were bought. We succeeded in getting together a good collection, thanks to the number of people who put their hands into their pockets and trusted to our improvised horse copers who scoured the country side. Given then a good collection of ponies, the other requisite was practice.

We got little or no practice owing to manœuvres.

In Lahore, where the Infantry Cup was held, we played six games altogether; we improved enormously and from being four indifferent players playing separately we became something approaching a team.

Our debacle in the tournament against the Seaforth Highlanders was no greater than that of the Black Watch in the second round. We returned from Lahore to Dehra Dun and after a couple of games proceeded to Roorkee. In this tournament we showed the worst and the best form we had yet produced. Our play against the Sappers was execrable and against the 6th Cavalry quite good. The final of the subsidiary was anybody's game but the soft ground favoured our worse mounted opponents.

On March 15 we returned to Chakrata and thence-

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forward we got to work on the three a side ground at Kailana. We ran a three a side tournament in May and fourteen officers played.

The handicaps were local and the handicapper won the tournament, but did not provide a prize!

In June we sent our ponies across the hills to Mussoorie to play in the tournament there. All the three legged and the two legged ponies were taken and we entered two teams—three a side. The second team was called the Gloomy Portals and dressed in purple. They were unlucky—meeting the Viceroy's Bodyguard in the first round. The first team beat the 2nd Gurkhas, a scratch team, and foundered quite definitely when up against the Indore team—three Indians who had played polo for more years than we had months. We got some small cups for being the runners up, and were quite pleased with our performance.

The next tournament and the last to be mentioned here is the 2nd Goorkha Tournament held in Dehra Dun in October. Ponies were up in Chakrata and just being got fit after the rains. We took down every beast we could lay hands on, and arranged for two practice games before the tournament. Our display during the practice games was not convincing, but our ponies at the beginning of the Tournament were fitter than most.

As we won this tournament a fuller account of it will be given and the reasons for our success.

The team were :—

Falkiner, No. 1 ..	Handicap	0
Ames, No. 2	„	1
Conant, No. 3 ..	„	1
Eagle, No. 4	„	0

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Falkiner had played well in Mussoorie and Eagle had played well in Roorkee.

In the first game on Monday, October 24 we played a Sapper team from Roorkee. We beat them 8—0 and pressed the whole game. The team kept their places well and were quick at developing an attack, thanks to a stronger line of forwards. This was the first tournament Ames had been able to play in.

The second game we played the 2nd Goorkhas. They gave us a goal and a half on handicap and we won by half a goal after a very closely fought game. Generally speaking Ames' play at No. 2, our ponies being better and fitter, and the fact that we played in our places gave us this game. There was a lot of mis-hitting at goal by both sides.

In the third game we played the Mixups, a team of remount officers and vets with one strong player excellently mounted—Colonel Anderson. This team had faster ponies than the 2nd Goorkhas and often had us beat for pace. The game was very level all through. Colonel Anderson saved a goal by turning up between his goal post twice and at the end of the third chukker we led by half a goal, and the Mixups were pressing.

In the fourth and last chukker the Mixups continued to press and scored half way through giving themselves a half goal lead.

We then pressed and with a minute to spare Conant scored. The bugle went with our side still retaining the half goal lead and we won the tournament.

In the final our combination had not been so good as in the first two games, and had we been playing against

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a team who had played together for longer, the result might have been different.

The teams played in other tournaments were :—

Infantry Cup.—Richards, No. 1 ; Crawford, No. 2 ; Conant, No. 3 ; Portal, No. 4.

Roorkee Tournament.—Portal, No. 1 ; Crawford, No. 2 ; Conant, No. 3 ; Eagle, No. 4.

Mussoorie Tournament Mackinnon Cup.—Crawford, No. 1 ; Falkiner, No. 2 ; Conant, No. 3.

At the beginning of November the polo team returned to Chakrata and despite the shortness of teams available we organized yet another three a side tournament.

This was won by the Colonel, Falkiner and Horan—a team including the Commanding Officer and the junior subaltern.

Regimental polo had by this time improved considerably, proving that for beginners bad station polo is better than good, provided one plays as a team as much as possible. People certainly acquired a knowledge of the game far quicker in Chakrata, than they ever did in Rawalpindi.

We had entered a team for the Carmichael and Ezra tournaments in Calcutta, the players to come in from the line of march.

We knew we should encounter well-mounted teams in both—and did not expect to survive more than one round of the Ezra, but hoped to do well in the Carmichael as this tournament is open to Bengal only.

Ponies were taken down three weeks before the tournament, but with three of the best ones recovering from lameness we could not hope to be really well mounted. Also, Ames had sprained a riding muscle in Dehra Dun and this was so bad he could only just

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sit on a horse, moreover we had no practice as a team on the Calcutta grounds.

We played Calcutta Red in the Carmichael and receiving 2½ goals on handicap were beaten 6—4½. We were better at the riding off game but they were better at stick work and infinitely better mounted.

We nearly turned the tide in the third chukker but our shots at goal were unlucky or unskilful, whichever one likes to call it. In this tournament Kilburn played back instead of Eagle.

After the tournament Ames returned to the Regiment as his riding muscle had completely given out.

In the Ezra we played: Kilburn, No. 1; Falkiner, No. 2; Conant, No. 3; Eagle, Back. This was a combination we had had no opportunity of practising

We played the Blue Birds—partly the same team which we had played in Dehra Dun—but with two new players and in considerably better practice. We lost 9—0, which was not really surprising. It was a sticky game. The ponies seemed to be feeling their legs and would not gallop.

These two tournaments closed the year which has undoubtedly marked a great improvement in Regimental polo. The standard in Calcutta polo is not very high although of course the majority of players are better mounted than ourselves. The great difficulty is the shortage of trained ponies at a price that the Army officer can afford. This makes it necessary to buy raw ponies landed from Australia and train them, a task which is rather beyond the ability and experience of most of the polo players at present.

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THE REGIMENTAL COMMITTEE

THE following is a short précis of the third annual report on the work of the committee for the financial year ending March 31, 1927.

The Deed of Trust has been finally settled and placed in the hands of the Bankers. The rules of the committee have been circulated to all concerned. The question of a refund of income tax as far as the funds of the Regimental Association are concerned has been settled, the Association now comes within the scope of the Charities Act and, as such, is exempt from tax. Tax on the funds of the Cottage Homes is also being refunded.

The committee wish to place on record their great appreciation of the work of Major Sanderson who, on vacating the Depot, ceased to be a member of the committee. Much of the work of starting the committee fell on his shoulders and the success of the JOURNAL is also chiefly due to him.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Under the heading of employment, out of the 130 registered, employment was found for 44 while 8 others were not recommended. More than this number have undoubtedly found employment thanks to the Association, for many men do not inform the Secretary when they have been successful. Employment has been found in every case of men leaving the service to reside in or near Oxford; the most helpful firms being Messrs. Morris Motors, Ltd., United

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Steel Press, Ltd., and The Oxford Bus Company. However, away from Oxford there has not been the same success, the committee therefore appeal to subscribers to assist them as much as possible.

One hundred and eighty-two applications were received for relief for sickness and distress, of which 158 were granted, totalling £368 3s. 11d. In a large number of these cases reports were received from the Charity Organization Society, Soldiers and Sailors Help Society and the Birmingham Citizens Society. £53 14s. 0d. was advanced on loan during the year to 14 applications out of 17 received, while £46 1s. 0d. was repaid on these and previous loans.

The Association was instrumental, after 4 months' correspondence, in obtaining a well-deserved pension in a case which had been previously turned down by the Lords' Appeal Tribunal. £268 1s. 0d. was paid in monthly and quarterly pensions during the year, while £17 7s. 9d. was paid in cases of children's education and sickness; altogether £764 17s. 9d. was paid out in charity. This fund received a very welcome addition of £1014 7s. 3d. from the receipts of the successful tattoo held in Oxford in 1926.

Regimental Charities Fund

£104 18s. 0d. was paid out to various charitable institutions which exist for the benefit and the assistance of ex-Service men, their dependents and others.

Regimental Chronicle

In view of the financial state at the end of the year, viz., a debtor balance of £34 4s. 3d., which practically

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represented the excess of printers' charges for publication over the amount of the subscriptions, the committee decided to change the printers and accordingly appointed Messrs. Slatter & Rose of Oxford, who will produce the CHRONICLE in the same form but at a cheaper rate. Brigadier-General Higgins took over the Editorship from Captain Birch-Reynardson, who had been appointed to a position in South Africa.

REGIMENTAL JOURNAL

The JOURNAL continued to prove an unqualified success, the number of advertisements was increased and the credit balance of the accounts stood at £130 5s. 1½d., while 10,300 copies were printed during the year.

REGIMENTAL CLUB

Under the rules of the committee, 15/- of the annual subscription is earmarked for the regimental dinner and 5/- for the regimental lunch at the Depot during the cricket week; the credit balance of the fund stood at £75 3s. 5d.

REGIMENTAL WAR MEMORIALS UPKEEP FUND

The credit balance at the end of the financial year was £31 12s. 9d., during the year £18 had been spent in repairing and renovating the Punjab Frontier memorial in Queen Street, Oxford.

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OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

THE Annual Re-union and Dinner was held in the Town Hall, Oxford, on Saturday, October 1, 1927. Major-General Sir John Hanbury-Williams presided.

The Annual Meeting took place at 12.30 p.m., and the following resolutions were passed :—

1. That the Minutes and Accounts be accepted.
2. That the President and Vice-Presidents be re-elected.
3. That the 1928 Re-union should be held at High Wycombe on Saturday, October 6.
4. That the Working Committee be re-elected.

The Honorary Secretary now reports that the Accounts show a Credit Balance of £26 8s. 1d. which is far more favourable than when he took over the duties.

This year 216 Members attended the Dinner, which proved quite a success and it is sincerely hoped that next year the number will be greatly increased.

Amongst those present were : His Worshipful the Mayor of Oxford, Major-General Sir John Hanbury-Williams, Major-General Sir R. Fanshawe, Major-General H. R. Davies, Brig.-General A. E. Dalzell, Brig.-General C. G. Higgins, Brig.-General A. J. F. Eden, Colonel E. R. Clayton, Colonel J. A. Ballard, Colonel H. L. Ruck-Keene, Major J. J. Powell, Captains F. M. Roberts, J. W. Meade, H. E. F. Smyth, P. Booth, Lieut.-Colonel W. C. Hunter and many others.

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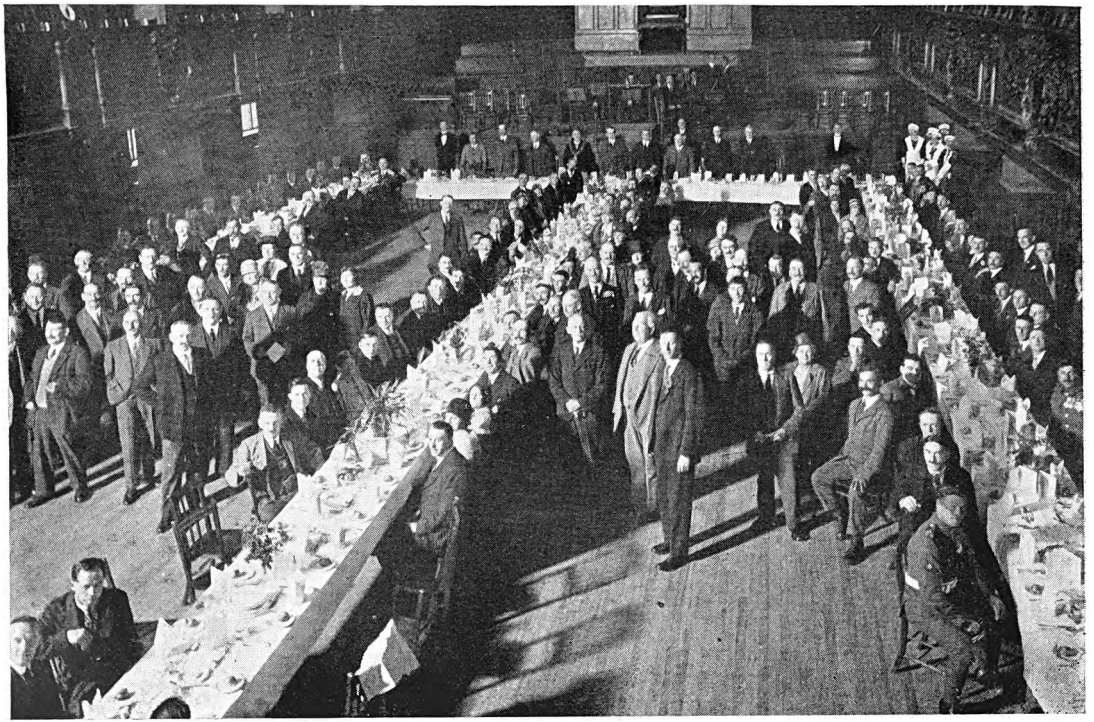

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION DINNER, TOWN HALL, OXFORD.

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SHANGHAI DEFENCE FORCE

THE 20 Section " A " men of the Regiment who were called up in January, 1927, and joined the 1st Battalion the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) returned to England on October 20. They went at once to the Depot and were then sent off on fourteen days' furlough on the following day before being once more transferred to the Army Reserve. The following correspondence relating to these men is now published.

To :—
MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN HANBURY-WILLIAMS,
K.C.V.O., K.C.B., C.M.G.
Colonel,
The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

DEAR GENERAL.

As you know, 20 Section " A " Reservists of your Regiment were called up in January this year and proceeded with the 1st Bn. Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) to China.

The Battalion did not go to Shanghai but spent the summer in Hong Kong where, as a reinforcement to that Garrison, it played a part in preserving peace in South China.

These Reservists have returned to this Country and are proceeding to their Depot for demobilization, I had not the pleasure of seeing them before they disembarked from H.M.T. *Herminius*.

Major Thorburn who has brought the Reservists

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home informs me that their behaviour has been exemplary during their stay in China, and has done much to increase the prestige of our Army in the Far East. By their cheerful soldierlike spirit and efficiency during a very hot and trying summer in Hong Kong, they were an example to the young serving soldiers.

The names of the Reservists from your Regiment are :—

No.		No.	
5374684	Rfn Bayliss, J.	5374035	Rfn Blackman, A.
5374033	Rfn Bowden, J.	5374451	Rfn Bowlor, A.
5374039	Rfn Callow, A.	6908504	Rfn Doherty, F.
5374665	Rfn Clack, G.	5374307	Rfn Cato, W.
5374499	Rfn Farmer, W.	5376292	Rfn Ford, P.
5374654	L./Cpl. Gough, A.	5374431	Rfn Grubb, W.
5374222	Rfn Holmes, A.	5374248	Cpl. Ingram, H.
5374671	Rfn Ives, V.	5374572	Rfn Jackson, F.
5374408	L./Cpl. Lovelace, H.	5374024	Rfn Miller, L.
5374194	Rfn Shayler, J.	5374033	Rfn Taylor, H.
5373483	Rfn Ware, J.		

Yours sincerely,
(*sd.*) P. R. ROBERTSON, MAJOR-GENERAL
Colonel, The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)

28th October, 1927.

MY DEAR ROBERTSON,

Thank you so much for your kind letter of 26th inst. concerning the Reservists of my Regiment who have returned from China.

I am indeed pleased and proud that they have done credit to the Regiment and to the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) with whom I feel sure our men were very proud to serve.

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I am notifying those concerned of your kind message.

(*Sgd.*) J. HANBURY-WILLIAMS.

Major-General Sir Philip Rynd Robertson, K.C.B., C.M.G., Colonel, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles).

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
28th October, 1927.

MY DEAR POWELL,

I have received with the greatest pleasure the enclosed letter from the Colonel of the Cameronians this morning.

Will you kindly have copies of it conveyed to the Reservists named and to the O.C. Battalions.

It is good to find that our men do us such credit, and though it is the custom and habit of 43rd and 52nd to behave like this it is none the less extremely pleasing to hear of it from outside sources.

Kindly return the letter. Yours ever.

(*sd.*) J. HANBURY-WILLIAMS.

Major J. J. Powell, Commanding Depot,
43rd and 52nd Light Infantry,
Cowley Barracks, Oxford.

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THE TIDWORTH TATTOO

HAVING made such a name for itself the previous year in the tattoo world, the Depot was invited this year to take part in the Southern Command Tattoo at Tidworth in August. In the matter of time we were restricted to ten minutes for any episode which we chose to put on, which, when compared with the three hours' programme of 1926, sounded a far easier and simpler proposition.

I chose as our episode the " Pageant of Time," part of the 1926 programme, a parade of old uniforms worn at different periods in the regiment; the dates being as follows: 1741, an officer of the battalion companies carrying a halberd[1] and four grenadiers attired in tall caps, long white gaiters and voluminous coats. 1790, an officer and four privates of the battalion companies wearing three-cornered hats and white wigs, white breeches, and black gaiters to the knee. 1815, an officer, a sergeant carrying a pike, and nine privates dressed as the 52nd at the Battle of Waterloo. 1850, an officer, the sergeant major, four privates, and the 43rd band and buglers, the band wearing the smart white coatees and blue trousers of those days. 1872 followed, dressed in tunics very similar to those worn before the late war and white helmets as worn by the 43rd in India at the time. A party in khaki drill of the South African War came next, then a party in the pre-war tunic and helmet. And last a small platoon,

[1] This should have been the spontoon or half-pike which was the officer's weapon, the halberd was carried by sergeants till 1792. *Vide History of the British Army*, Fortescue, Vol. I, p. 329, and Vol. III, p. 543.

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with two officers, in fighting order of the Great War, carrying all the arms used by the infantry in 1918, with steel helmets covered with sand bags as affected by the 52nd. Without a doubt this party was the most popular, their appearance always being received with loud applause.

Each party appeared in a frame about a hundred yards from the audience to give the effect of a small picture, producing a general impression only, being too far away for details of dress, etc., to be noticed. The frame was lit by a line of flood lights, just in front, which gave a soft and diffused yellow light; these we found infinitely superior to the hard white light of a searchlight which we had tried first and instantly discarded.

In the 1741 group I included the first Colonels of the 43rd and 52nd who, on coming out of the frame, crossed the arena to the royal box which they saluted, then turned round to take the salute of each period as they marched round in front of the stands. The band who had formed up in the arena in the dark played each party past to an appropriate march; when the 1850 party appeared in the frame a spot light was thrown on the band which showed up splendidly their white uniforms and silver instruments and bugles.

After the last party had passed the stands the whole detachment formed up in line, advanced in review order and gave a general salute before marching out of the arena.

I was lucky in persuading Hughes and Metcalfe, who were home on leave from the 52nd, to help us, and I can only hope that they enjoyed their trip to Tid-

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worth; for we were all very grateful both to them and Dupont of the 4th Battalion Reserve for their assistance. Hughes and Dupont led the Great War Party, Smyth was in command of 1914, Randall of 1850, Metcalfe of 1815 and Bayley of 1741, while Theobalds and I respectively filled the roles of the first Colonels of the 52nd and 43rd. The other officers were Sergeant Yates 1790, Sergeant Stuchbury 1900, and Mr. Beare, the Depot Mobilization Storeman, 1872. The last named, I believe, came in for a certain amount of attention from the boys of the Public Schools camp in Tidworth Park, with whom he was in camp. It is rumoured that on one occasion a guard turned out to him, while on another a sentry turned his back on him! However, I feel that he was partly responsible for such a large attendance from his camp on the Monday night.

In the grand finale of the tattoo the whole detachment marched across the arena before forming up, led by the band and buglers playing the 43rd and 52nd Regimental marches.

Once I had decided on the Pageant of Time I found that there was plenty to consider and discuss, especially in details of dress and drill which I realized would have to be carefully overhauled and checked to ensure the greatest possible accuracy.

To what extent I obtained accuracy in these two matters I am not prepared to say, but I did establish the fact that pictures and drawings of uniforms are often far from truthful and contain little additions which the artist has added for art's sake. For instance, to my certain knowledge there are at least two pictures of an officer of 1741 showing totally different

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coats, neither of which, as far as I could discover, was entirely accurate. Again doubt exists as to the exact type of shako worn by the 52nd in the Battle of Waterloo. As regards the latter, there is one in the Museum of the Royal United Services Institution, marked 1815, which is perfectly straight and plain, and this is the one we used. There are several pictures of the 52nd of this period wearing the false fronted shako, as shown on page 128 of the Regimental Chronicle for 1894, with the plume in front for the officer and on the side for the man. Personally I rather favour this latter as most regiments wore the false fronted one at this period, which had been introduced in 1809, and I cannot think that the 52nd were an exception to the general rule.

The large majority of the uniforms already existed so little extra remained to be provided. I soon found that it was infinitely cheaper to have these made by Mr. Grant, the Depot Tailor, than to hire from Messrs. Clarkson or other theatrical costumiers who produce garments which may be entirely inaccurate and charge an exorbitant rate for the loan. Mr. Grant, on the other hand, was an enthusiast who was always willing to spend an immense amount of time and trouble to obtain accuracy.

In the matter of drill I experienced the same uncertainty though I culled much useful information from Grose's *Military Antiquities*, Volume I, in which I discovered full details of pike drill. Although this very estimable work gave a picture of most of the motions the detail was missing, or else so difficult to follow that one was forced to fall back on one's imagination. These were eventually elucidated by

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Captain Oakes Jones, the War Office expert in the matter of Tattoos, who was soon able to correct our faulty movements and show us exactly how to stand at ease, carry and salute with the halberd, pike and sword.

After a while and some practice Bayley became quite proficient in the art of pike drill, and the ease with which he performed the necessary evolutions and the grace and dignity with which he doffed his hat were, I feel sure, quite in harmony with those of bygone days.

In 1786 the spontoon or half-pike, after being the infantry officer's weapon for over a century, was replaced by the sword, and in 1792 the halberd which had been carried by sergeants was superseded by the pike[1]; which, in its turn was abolished by a circular dated July 31, 1830.

In the early days the hat was also doffed in the salute with the sword and the pike, a practice which was probably discontinued in 1786. But in order still to represent the doffing of the hat, the left hand was brought to the peak in a graceful motion immediately after the salute with the sword. This remained in use till about 1870 when it was only used in marching past in slow time. From an easy and graceful motion the movement became stiffer and more rigid until at the end the fingers were held horizontally to the peak of the shako.

The arms drill was also taught by Captain Oakes Jones who, without a moment's hesitation, explained that of 1741, 1790 and right on to South Africa.

[1] *Vide History of the British Army*, Fortescue. Vol. I, p. 329, and Vol. III, p. 543.

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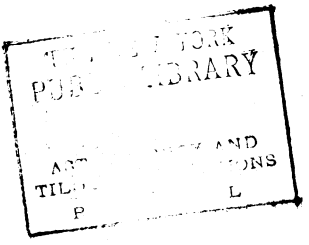

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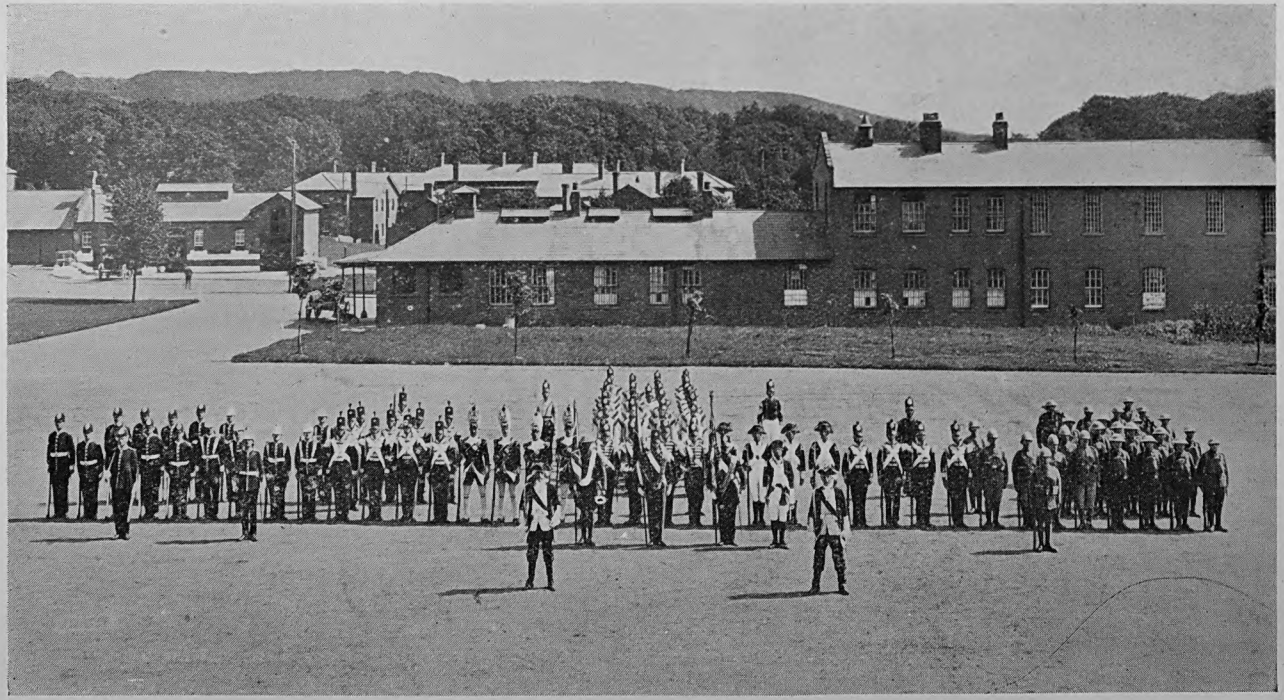

TIDWORTH TATTOO, 1927—EPISODE: THE PAGEANT OF TIME.

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For a description of the Tattoo I do not think that I can do better than quote from the article of the Special Correspondent of the *Morning Post* which I do, thanks to the courtesy of the Editor of that paper.

" Spirits of the Army, past, present, and yet to come, have marched down from the slumbering sites of a score of ancient camps up along the woods and chalk escarpments of the hills around, to roam for awhile to-night, each in the battle order of its day, along the vast, familiar stretches of Salisbury Plain.

" It is the first night of the Southern Command Tattoo—the Tattoo will be repeated each evening from Monday till Thursday—and the beam of powerful searchlights, penetrating far into the darkness of the night, have picked them out and brought them in fleeting glimpses before the gaze of thousands of their countrymen as they crossed the great arena in Tidworth Park at the foot of the slopes.

" Perhaps the sturdiest soldiers of old who passed across the field of emerald green, lit by a flood of soft yellow light, were Colonel Thomas Fowke, who raised the 43rd Regiment of Foot in 1741, and Colonel Hedworth Lambton, who raised the 54th [*sic*] Foot in 1755. They came at a stately pace to the centre of the ground, mahogany canes in hand, the folds of their scarlet uniform coats wrapped tightly around them, and their facings of fine lace fluttering in the breeze, to take the salute of their successors in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry—the name by which these two regiments are now known.

" Little groups of men in the uniforms of each succeeding decade marched out from the inky darkness beneath an overhanging hill on the left—it might have

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been Pook's Hill—across the field of light, saluting as they came, and out into a heavy shadow of a cluster of trees on the right. And as each group passed by their first Colonels acknowledged them by doffing their three-cornered hats with sweeping gestures.

"First came the grenadiers in their tall white caps, blazoned with the cypher of a bygone king, and led by an officer carrying the halberd of other days. The men of 1815 followed, with their short tailed coats and shakos; others of 1872 in the white sun helmets with brass chin bands, worn by the regiment in India; the khaki-clad veterans of the Boer War, and at last the men of the Great War in the steel helmets with Vickers machine gun, Lewis gun and rifle and hand grenade. It was surely a proud spectacle for these two bewigged old Colonels. . . ."

Thanks to the kindness of the 43rd we secured the services of the band and of a few extra buglers and thus were able to run the whole show with members of the Regiment. Everyone worked with a will and a determination to make the show a success and thoroughly deserved the congratulations and applause which we received.

So as to preserve all the details of dress and drill for the future copious notes were taken and these with those of the Depot Tattoo of 1926 are now preserved in the office of the Regimental Committee at Cowley Barracks.

J. J. P.

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MORE RECOLLECTIONS OF A LITERARY BLOKE

WHEN I joined the Army a subaltern was a subaltern, and the senior subaltern was the senior subaltern—two entirely separate and distinct beings, not to be confounded one with the other. And often in the winter of my military career have I wished that this valuable being might be reincarnated. For a Commanding Officer does not make a good senior subaltern. Neither his vision nor his language should descend below a certain level.

At Chatham in 1903, with the 43rd, we had one of the old kind of senior subalterns. He was one of the best of fellows, and if he had any slight failing, although far be it for me to suggest that he had one, it was perhaps that he, like many other distinguished soldiers, was a bit of a " grouser."

But in virtue of his high office and long habit—a licensed grouser. Now a licensed grouser in the Army is one thing, and an unlicensed grouser quite another thing.

Well one day, to come to my story, I and a few subalterns, our friend the senior subaltern being amongst us, were sitting in the ante-room, when in comes a certain lately joined young subaltern. Looking around him and seeing as he thought a favourably disposed audience, he started to make some disparaging remarks on the futility of certain duties he had just performed as orderly officer. Knowing what to expect I clenched the arm of my chair, held

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my breath and awaited events. I had not long to wait. After allowing the young man to ramble on a little longer the senior subaltern arose and delivered himself.

Yes, he delivered himself. And such was the blasting power of his language that truly the earth rocked, the floor shook and the pictures rattled on the walls. And what we gathered in the intervals between the thunder and the lightning was this. That although he, the senior subaltern, might occasionally suggest, in virtue of his high standing, that all was not well in our beautiful military world, yet the mere idea that a worm-like creature like this one now standing before him should express any views at all on any duty given him to fulfil, that these views should be expressed in the ante-room, and that, moreover, they should be unfavourable ones, utterly and entirely passed the comprehension of man.

Twenty-five years ago now, yet that little scene in the ante-room at Chatham has remained indelibly fixed in my memory. Dear old John. How Time, the great healer, has mellowed him. Now the rawest Territorial recruit can meet his benign gaze without fear or trembling. It was not always thus.

Yes, senior subalterns were different people to senior subalterns in these days, and Colour Sergeants were not the same people as Company Sergeants Majors are now. Did we change their character when we changed their title? I think so. Despots they used to be. I remember the one who supported me through my early and fearful days as a Company Commander. He was a tiger. There was no nonsense about him. In his company the Colour Ser-

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geant was the Colour Sergeant, the Captain was the Captain, and the rest were amongst the "also ran." Here is a sample of the way he dealt with things.

(To the Company)—"Fall in there and pay attention to the result of the marks in the judging distance practice. Me and the Captain full marks, remainder nothing! Stop that laughing there. Fall out!" Yes, you knew where you were with him.

After Chatham, India. We in my Company spent our first Indian summer in a small hill station not far from Simla. In those days it was not considered right and proper that a native should pass a sahib on the road under the shelter of an umbrella. If he did, what we were told was the right and correct thing to do, he lowered the offending screen until the lord sahib had passed on his way. Now although even at this time the native was becoming very emancipated and one could by no means always reckon on every native one met paying one these feudal tokens of respect, a certain young subaltern in my Company was determined that it should not be his fault if this ancient and honourable custom was allowed to lapse. Accordingly, as he rode on his gay way to Simla, any native he met on the road with an umbrella up not conforming to the practice I have mentioned, received marks of his severe displeasure. Now one day as our young champion was taking a short cut on his way through the Vice-regal grounds at Simla he met on his path a recalcitrant Indian gentleman who passed him by without furling his umbrella or sunshade. And as was his practice our young friend beat upon the umbrella or sunshade of the recalcitrant Indian gentleman with his cane, and having, as I

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believe, caused serious damage to it, rode on his haughty way rejoicing. But, most unfortunately, this time the umbrella or sunshade in question happened to belong to the private tutor of the children of His Excellency the Viceroy of India, and its owner was even then pursuing his way in order to be in time to give these illustrious young people their afternoon lesson in the ancient language of Hindustan. Our young defender of our liberties had properly done it. Now it was notorious that His Excellency the Viceroy did not at all hold the same views as to the correct demeanour of the Indian native when meeting an English subaltern as our young friend did, and he had only just given utterance to his views on this point and on many others relating to the social status of the native in a great and much discussed speech at Calcutta or Bombay. Our young champion could hardly have selected a more unsuitable person, place, or time for putting his own views in force on the native question, than he had chosen this afternoon.

But knowing nothing of all this, as I said, he rode on his way rejoicing. In India news fly fast, and it was not long before we at our little station heard of the terrible thing that had happened—Government Chuprassies clad in scarlet and gold embroidered with the Vice-regal arms and carrying enormous envelopes stamped with the Vice-regal seal arrived sweating from Simla at our little orderly room. Mounted orderlies bearing duplicate envelopes followed them to confirm the outrage. We wondered in amazement what would happen to our Bertie. A court martial seemed the least evil we could imagine for him. Some suggested that he would be shot at dawn without even a trial.

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I never knew in fact, or have forgotten, exactly what did happen to him.

He was summoned to Regimental Headquarters, and no doubt has a very clear recollection himself of what passed there. All I remember is that it seemed a very long time before he went on any leave.

Those were the days when Peter was King. To Lucknow we moved in 1905. Here I shared a palatial dwelling with three other subalterns. It was known, for some obscure reason, as the rich man's bungalow. We found the description slightly embarrassing, but determined to make the best of it.

We all banked with the famous Hindu firm of bankers, Messrs. Incha Ram & Co. They were reputed to be at that time the rightful owners of nine-tenths of the polo ponies in Northern India, although none of the firm had ever been seen astride one of their own mounts. The head of the firm was an enormously fat man who sat all day on his little platform in the bazaar with his legs crossed. He wore always a beautiful gold waistcoat covered with jewels. You had to owe him a great deal of money before he deemed it worth his while to leave his platform and come and see you personally. In answer to our frequent and urgent summonses a junior member of the firm was sent on most occasions.

This is what I constantly used to hear through the open door separating my room from the next rich man's room.

"Send for Inky Ram to-day." "Very good, Master." A few hours later a junior Inky Ram would appear and after much humble obeisance would at length open the business part of the conversation. "Please,

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how much money does the lord master want to-day?" And the answer used to be: "As much as you can carry, oh dust-like one! and—quickly too!"

And through the open door of another rich man's room, now a noble viscount, I would hear the cry: "Is that Inky Ram? Send him along here." But we had one genuine rich man, insomuch that all are rich who live within their income. He was our sheet anchor when it came to rent day. He was a rose grower. There always seems to me to be something good about rose growers. When I see a man with a little basket on his arm and a large pair of scissors I always say to myself—there goes a better man than me.

Even when he was in England on long leave he regularly every month sent his cheque for his rent and the "mali," asking at the same time pathetic questions about his beloved roses, which we were supposed to be looking after! Alas! He is no more.

I said we shared a bungalow and we shared other things, also, including a rich buggy by Wendover, which put us to a great deal of expense in the matter of repairs.

This was all due to one member of the bungalow whom we called "Pony." Now although Pony was a first-class polo player and a very good rider, I have no hesitation in saying he was a shocking bad driver. He seemed mentally incapable of estimating the width of his wheels in relation to the width of our entrance gate. In consequence either our buggy or our entrance gate was constantly in the hands of repairers. To do him justice, I will say that he was just as bad a driver in the morning as he was in the evening. He

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used to drive in the buggy a great spanking skewbald waler mare called "The Nightmare." She never trotted less than about sixteen miles an hour, and when she hit anything with the buggy something happened. Never shall I forget driving on several occasions to Lucknow races with him. The road to the racecourse led through a very narrow bazaar which used to be packed with native vehicles on their way to the course. You came up with them, the Nightmare going all out. There was no slackening of speed. Some managed to get out of our way but woe to those who didn't. Pony and the Nightmare merely went on. And as they went they caught like a mine-sweeper a native ekka on each side of us and locked their wheels firmly round the wheels of our buggy. And thus the progress continued. But after a short time neither the native pony nor the native harness could bear the pace and the strain any longer. Their belly bands snapped and to the accompaniment of piercing shrieks of despair two complete ekka loads of natives were deposited on the road. But alas! one day the poor Nightmare in the course of one of her triumphal progresses struck against something more solid than an ekka load of natives and came to an untimely end.

Another Lucknow memory centres round a certain subaltern whom we all thought to be very abnormal in many ways, but to us subalterns the most abnormal thing about him was his abnormal appetite. The hottest day in the hot weather made no difference to the amount of solid matter he consumed in the course of the day. Needless to say it in no way lessened the amount of liquid refreshment he found necessary for

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his sustenance. There were two stories told at his expense which amused us all inordinately for a very long time. On one occasion it was related of him that on a stifling morning in the middle of the hot weather having finished a very long and solid breakfast he turned to the khitmagar standing behind his chair and said in a voice like thunder, "bring me some mango fool." The khitmagar went off and returned with the message that there was no mango fool that morning. "What, no mango fool!" shouted our friend, "Then bring me some more eggs and bacon!" And the second story was this. He had often told us when we chaffed him about the enormous amount he ate at breakfast that unlike us he never had any chota-hazri in the early morning but always gave it to his dog. Needless to say we didn't swallow this. So one morning at chota-hazri time his room was raided to find out the true facts of the matter. There was our fat friend in bed with his mouth full of buttered toast and no dog in sight! "Hullo, Guava," said our amateur detective. "I thought you always gave your chota-hazri to your dog?" "I'm the dog this morning, you d——d fool," was the answer. Yes, and every morning, too!

I am one of those who in the course of a strenuous career with the colours has found it necessary and beneficial to seek the quiet and haven of the Depot from time to time as a means of recuperation before further renewal of military efforts. And so to the Depot I first went in 1907. So much has been written by other pens than mine on the joys of hunting and shooting at the Depot that although like a famous writer, "I freely confess that the best of my fun I

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owe it to horse and to hound," I do not propose to touch here on this side of our life at Cowley Barracks. But there are a few simple family domestic incidents which happened then which often come back to my mind. In those days we kept a butler and a footman in the mess. We had chosen for the post of butler a time-expired Sergeant of the 43rd. He, no doubt, had been an excellent Sergeant, but I have no hesitation in saying that he was not by nature intended for butling. None of that urbane polish which one usually associates with gentlemen of this profession could ever be traced in his manner or deportment. He was, so to speak, on parade from daylight to darkness. His habitual expression was that of a right marker on a Sergeant Major's parade. For want of a better name we will know him like another famous character of a later date, under the pseudonym of Mr. A. No footman we could produce ever suited Mr. A. We changed them with monotonous regularity. It was always the same story after a few days. The young man was insubordinate. If we put in a plea to be allowed to give him a little longer trial his answer was always the same. I don't like him, Mrs. A. doesn't like him either, and what's more Mrs. A. doesn't like the way he looks at Miss A. That settled it. For Mrs. A. was a first-class cook. Oh, cooks! what will we not gladly suffer in your cause. Very difficult he was with tradesmen, too, and with everyone in fact who didn't answer to his standard of discipline. One day I had been down to Oxford to fetch the money for paying out the whole establishment of the Depot, which I had been told to hand over to the Adjutant on my return, as I was going

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away somewhere myself that morning. In those days one went down in a smart hansom cab from the Randolph with jingling bells and driven by a man wearing a very shiny tall hat. On my return to Barracks I paid the driver and hurried up to my room to change my clothes.

After some minutes there was a knock on my door, and in came Mr. A. "The cabman wants to speak to you, sir," he said. "He is very insolent. I have told him you have paid him his full fare and have ordered him out of Barracks three times. In my opinion the man ought to be put in the guard room!" Wondering what all the trouble was about I went down to see the insubordinate man in the tall hat. I found him standing by his cab. Touching his hat very politely he said, "You have left all the money you fetched from the bank on the floor of the cab, sir!" That was not the last time that Mr. A. intervened in matters concerning my financial affairs, with small gain to myself.

I frankly confess here that a little mild speculation has always had its charm for me, and in those days I speak of, possibly the charm was even greater than it is now.

Well, before going away one Friday afternoon for the week-end I entrusted our friend Mr. A. with a wire to send off on the telephone backing two horses. It was a £5 double. That afternoon I read in the evening papers in London that my two horses had both won, and at good odds. I had won what seemed to me to be a gigantic fortune. I spent a golden week-end. So happy, indeed was I that I was determined that others should share my joy. Getting out my cheque book I remembered then and there

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long-suffering tailors, patient bootmakers and resigned saddlers. Others, too, possibly less worthy than these, but none the less my creditors, received material remuneration for past favours rendered. Yes, I spent a golden week-end. On the Sunday evening I returned to Cowley Barracks. Wishing to taste of my joy once more I sent for Mr. A. and a whisky and soda at the same time.

Mr. A. appeared. "You sent off that wire on Friday all right, Mr. A.," I said: "I did not, sir." "Why not," I gasped out. "The young woman at the other end of the line who answered me was most cheeky and insubordinate," he said. "I wouldn't have anything to do with her and rang off." He placed my telegram carefully on the table beside me. Speechless, I gazed at him. Speechless, I gazed at his great iron jaw and immobile features wearing their customary right markers expression. What could I say? What could anyone say who hoped to say the suitable thing, and yet remain in the Army? He defeated me. Sorrowfully I drained my glass and went to bed. That nearly cured me of speculation, but not quite. A little later I saw another chance of making some money. This time again although my judgment was not at fault I nearly lost my money once more through no fault of my own.

It happened in this way. The conversation one night in mess had turned on a subject I have often heard discussed before. Can a man eat a pigeon a day for a year? Can a man eat 40, or was it 50, hard boiled eggs in half an hour? People said he couldn't; I said he could. We had a champion in that line then in the mess, and I backed him to eat this fabulous

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number of hard boiled eggs in half an hour and got quite a lot of money on the result. The contest was timed to take place at 1.30 p.m. in the ante-room on the following day. I ask you to picture my horror when on entering the dining-room about a quarter of an hour before the event was timed to take place I saw my champion sitting at the table and half-way through a good lunch! Puny and weak as I was compared to my giant I rushed at him, seized him by the shoulder and literally hurled him out of the room. It was, indeed, worse than seeing the horse on whom one has staked one's all bolting on his way to the post and galloping the complete circuit of the course. It was a lesson to me, however, never to despair. He won the contest and me my money with thirty seconds to spare.

One of our summer duties in those days was shooting the Reservists on a little rustic range at Kimblewick in the Chilterns—I mean to say supervising the practice while they fired their Reservist course. They came from all parts of the geographical military district, belonged to every kind of Regiment, and some of them were up to every kind of trick—in fact some of them could be very tiresome. On one occasion, rather against my own inclination, but spurred on by a very despotic Colour Sergeant, I declined to pay one for his day's outing and reported him to the authorities for insubordinate conduct. This took place in June. Nothing happened and I had quite forgotten the incident until one day in late August when I was shooting grouse in Perthshire I received a wire from the War Office ordering me to report myself at Aylesbury Police Station about two days later to

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give evidence in the case. My feelings can be better imagined than described. I remember well the chairman of the Bench saying that he took a very grave view of the case and fining the man seven shillings and sixpence. I wished it had cost me the same sum. All the officers serving at the Depot in those days had a wonderful knowledge of the works of Surtees, the immortal author of *Handley Cross*, etc. And it was a favourite amusement of ours to try and find a weak place in anyone's armour over it, but extremely difficult to succeed in the attempt. Had we known our military text-books half as well as we did those works promotion examinations should have had no terrors for us. But I am bound to say it was not time all wasted. Often have I found myself at an official dinner party seated next some seemingly extremely dull individual with apparently not an idea in common between us. A chance remark leads to the discovery that we both worship at the shrine of Surtees. The rest of the evening passes in a flash. I cannot help deploring that the rising generation of soldiers do not know their " Jorrocks " like we did. It was during this period of duty at the Depot under review when the old Oxfordshire Militia became the 3rd Special Reserve Battalion of the Regiment and all officers at the Depot became attached to them for duty. We attended the annual training in camp with them every summer. Great fun it was too. Strenuous mornings on the parade ground, strenuous afternoons on the polo ground, and still more strenuous nights in the mess. To be able to play polo in England at an extremely moderate cost and amongst one's own friends was indeed an almighty boon, for which I

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have always felt grateful, and although some of the ponies were not exactly up to one's Indian standard of a trained polo pony, it was amazing how well they played after they had done five or six chukkars in the same afternoon.

I must end now, for if I write any more the Editor may never publish it. After the Depot to India I again returned, like all good and poor subalterns.

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TIGER SHOOTING IN THE SOUTH CHANDA DISTRICT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES

By Captain W. A. R. Ames

Ever since I returned from shooting in the Central Provinces during November and December, 1924, it has always been my ambition to try the same district during the hot weather. It was not until this year (1927), that I was able to fulfil that ambition when at the end of February, the younger Horan and I started off on our tiger shooting expedition from Dehra Dun with a full two months' leave ahead of us. We sent off a telegram early in December, 1926, for two of the best blocks in North Chanda but found that they were not available. We therefore decided to revisit the South Chanda district and were allotted the Dhaba block for March and the Sironcha block for April.

We were extremely lucky in obtaining these two blocks as undoubtedly they are, at this time, two of the best blocks in the district: Dhaba being especially good for chital and Sironcha for tiger.

We arrived at Chanda on the evening of February 27 and were again lucky in finding it necessary to stay only one day in Chanda to complete our stores, thereby being able to leave for our block on March 1, the day on which our leave was officially supposed to start, having gained a flying start of four days over the week end.

We motored a distance of 21 miles to Kothari and then had a 20 mile march through the jungle to

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Wamanpillee, where we were going to make our headquarters for March.

We decided to move that evening, so as to waste no time and ordered our bullock carts for 6 p.m. In truly Indian fashion they were 6 hours late and finally turned up at midnight.

We started the march at 1 a.m., with a local guide who had been given to us by the Range Officer as a reliable man who knew the way. However, after marching for three hours into the jungle, the guide informed us that he did not know the way and was completely lost! 4 a.m. was not a particularly good time to receive this information, especially as the guide was inclined to be insolent. We decided to go back to meet the bullock carts and luckily found them before going more than a mile. We finally arrived at the bungalow about 8.30 a.m., after a very long and weary march.

We found the block to consist chiefly of thickish bamboo jungle with one excellent place for tying up buffaloes; a stream running through a very quiet, shady patch of jungle with plenty of thick undergrowth in which a tiger could lie up after he had killed and fed. The only unfortunate part about it was the fact that the neighbouring jungle was the best hunting ground for other game. However, as tigers were our objective, we decided to keep it quiet and do the best we could in other directions.

We started shooting on March 2 and did not have much luck with tiger for some days. It was very disappointing, when day after day, the young buffaloes used to return to the bungalow alive and kicking. We managed, however, to obtain 2 chital, a nilghai, a

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black buck and a sloth bear during the first 12 days in the block. One chital had a very good head of 34 inches, but unfortunately had both tips of its horns broken off, otherwise it would have been somewhere about 36 inches.

On March 10, Horan while returning to the bungalow after an evening stalk, came past the buffaloes to see if they had been properly tied up. On approaching one of the buffaloes, he saw a tiger slinking away from it about 25 yards off. He was unable to get a shot at it, as the light was bad and jungle thick. This tiger, being disturbed at his "kill" eventually took five nights before he decided to kill the buffalo. This emphasizes the fact that you must keep your tiger jungle quiet if your objective is tiger.

On March 15, two kills were reported, so we immediately sent out for beaters which were very easy to obtain in this part of the district. We had collected enough by 11.30 a.m. and moved off to the first beat which proved a blank. On inspection of the "kill," we discovered that there were no pug marks anywhere near it and that it had not been killed in the usual way, i.e., two large teeth marks of the upper jaw on the top of the neck and the two large ones of the lower jaw on the throat. Instead, there were three small punctures on each side of the throat with no marks on the top of the neck at all. We asked our shikari's views on this and he said that it had been done with a knife. This deed was perpetrated presumably by the local villagers to get money for a beat. We were exceedingly annoyed about this and went off to beat for the next tiger. We had to have our machans tied up very quickly and in rather an

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awkward place; the only available trees being on the edge of a fire line. This meant that the tiger, if there was one there, would probably cross the line at full gallop, thereby giving a difficult shot. It was a unique beat altogether. Firstly, the jungle was very scrubby with no trees for "stops" and secondly the whole line of beaters had to make a left wheel in the middle of the beat; a very difficult and rather risky operation from the point of view of getting the tiger to go in the required direction.

Very shortly after the beat started, I saw a tiger come out of the thickest part of the jungle and go back quickly. I kept seeing him through the bushes, moving towards the machans. Finally, as anticipated, he galloped across the fire line to Horan. He fired and the tiger went off into the jungle behind us. I heard him making a whining noise and knew that he must be very badly hit. I offered up a silent prayer that he would be dead when we found him and would give us no trouble! Things turned out differently. We got down from our machans and waited for half an hour or so and then started to follow up. At first we came across no blood trail at all, and Sheik Mira, our shikari, said he had been missed. This I knew to be untrue as no tiger would have made the noise which I had heard if he had not been hit. However, shortly afterwards, we found blood and started to track him. We had not gone very far when we were pulled up short by an angry snarl. Everyone scattered for miles up trees, leaving Horan and me, with our shikari and my bearer, feeling distinctly uncomfortable. From this moment, growling and panting which sounded about 50–100 yards away,

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THE TIGERS.

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continued incessantly. We moved very cautiously from side to side to try and see him, but could not find him anywhere. We knew he was somewhere up in the higher ground slightly to our left and our first thought was to get above him where we would be in a safer position. We rejected this idea as if he charged, we thought he would probably go down hill towards the main jungle track and possibly maul an inoffensive passer by! We therefore moved on very carefully about 50 yards, which took us three-quarters of an hour and at each twig we broke, the tiger gave an angrier snarl. We expected him to charge at any moment. We turned slightly away and began to consult as to the next best step to be taken.

We felt fairly certain that he was incapable of movement because he had not charged before. The jungle was too thick to go any nearer and we thought we would have to go back and get buffaloes to drive into the jungle in front of us. However, the whole question was decided for us the next moment, as the monotonous snarling gradually increased to a roar and out he charged about 25 yards away, coming straight at us. We both fired simultaneously and he rolled over, this time mortally wounded, about 15 yards away. Again he got up and we pumped lead into him, but he could not have come another yard.

We found that he had been hit originally in the stomach, the bullet coming out and breaking his hind leg. It was a great relief to see him lying dead, as it was a very nerve-racking experience, which, although we were very glad to have had, we do not want again. The excitement of it was very intense, and it was quite

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one of the best days we had during the whole leave. The tiger turned out to be a good male measuring 9 ft. 2 in., and in fair condition, but like all tigers that inhabit bamboo jungle, he was of a pale colour.

For the remaining fortnight in this block, we kept the jungle very quiet in the hopes of getting another kill, but although there were tigers about, they would not be kind to us and eat our buffaloes.

Horan got a very fine chital, a perfect head measuring 35 inches, and I shot another black buck. Sambhur were elusive and although we saw a number of good heads, we were unable to add one to the bag.

In this block, the Wardha River, dividing the Central Provinces from Hyderabad, is about 600 yards from the bungalow. There were a few mugger which gave us a good deal of fun in the mornings and evenings, but we were never able to get one.

The black buck in the cotton fields of Sonapur, about 3 miles from the bungalow also provided a good deal of amusement when we had decided not to shoot at all in the tiger jungle, but there were no really big heads to be shot.

On March 29th, we left the Dhaba Block and did a very good night march back to Kothari, where we arrived on the early morning of the 30th. We had decided to go into Chanda before moving off to our next block in order to send the skins off to the taxidermist in Dehra Dun as we were having a certain amount of trouble with them in the heat. We were lucky in being able to " lorry hop " into Chanda the same evening and having despatched the skins and replenished stores, we started off for Sironcha, 130 miles south of Chanda, in a lorry on the early morning

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of April 1. I think, without exception, it was one of the worst days we spent. It was very hot, the road bumpy and my bearer was on his back with a bad go of fever. We arrived at Sironcha, after 10 hours on the road, hot, tired and dusty. However, from the moment of arrival, things began to improve. We found the Divisional Forest Officer staying at the bungalow, and never has there been born a more helpful one. He fed us, arranged for our bullock carts to take our luggage out early next morning to Kopela, 5 miles from our new head-quarters and offered to motor us out in his Morris-Cowley along a very rough jungle track for a distance of 20 miles. This was a great help and left us only 5 miles to march the next day to Somanpillee from where we were going to shoot.

Somanpillee is a delightful spot on the banks of the Indravati River which divided the Central Provinces from Bastar State. The inhabitants were the most jungly we had ever seen.

Having found out at Chanda that it was an ideal hunting ground for tiger, we decided to keep the whole place quiet and shoot for tiger, panther and nothing else. We were absolutely repaid for our patience, and with a little more luck we should have doubled our bag in this block.

It was infinitely more difficult to obtain buffaloes in this area, but after two or three days, we got our requirements and very shortly had 5 buffaloes tied up for tiger and one for panther.

The weather by this time was becoming really hot and during the whole time we were at Somanpillee, the temperature in the veranda of the bungalow

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ranged between 108 degrees and 113 degrees during the day.

While walking around the block tying up buffaloes in the evening, we saw any number of tiger pug marks, both fresh and old, but even so, we had to wait until April 9 before we got our first kill.

This was a unique kill in its way, as at about 7 a.m. the two coolies, who went to see if the buffalo had been taken, disturbed a tiger just about to kill. This was a late hour for a tiger to kill. They came back at once to report it and we sent them out again to get up trees to watch what happened. When they got back, they found the buffalo had been taken and on going up to inspect, heard the tiger in the jungle a short distance away. They came back again with the news and we sent out at once for men. It was then 11.30 a.m. and we spent the rest of the day worrying about whether we should get the beat through or not. We found that men in this part of the country were exceedingly difficult to obtain. At 5 p.m. both Forest Guards, whom we had sent out, returned with only one man between them!! It was too late to do anything then, so we sent off a man about midnight with a note to the Deputy Ranger imploring him to bring men as early as possible on the 10th. We were also lucky in that a bullock cart convoy halted for the night at Somanpillee and we conscripted about 25 men from them to act as beaters.

We had another kill on the morning of the 10th, so we decided to beat for both tigers if we obtained sufficient men. The Deputy Ranger turned up trumps and by 10.15 a.m. we had collected 70 beaters and we were able to start off for the first beat. Un-

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fortunately this turned out to be a blank one and on inspecting the kill and water, we found that the tiger had moved off in the opposite direction. This blank beat was due to the faulty reconnaissance on the part of our shikari. We decided to beat back for the tiger and our machans were again tied up. This time the beat was along the banks of the Indravati River so it was not necessary to have " stops " at all on one side.

About ten minutes after the beat started, I saw a large tiger walking slowly along towards my machan. He stopped about 30 yards away but I was unable to shoot owing to the thickness of the jungle. He then climbed slowly up a bank and passed my machan to the right about 20 yards away. I fired and he rolled down the bank, finishing up just underneath my machan, stone dead. He turned out to be a good tiger measuring 9 ft. 1 in., but had a very pale coat. My shot had broken his neck and we were very relieved that he could give no trouble such as the last one.

We left a Forest Guard and 12 men to bring him to camp while we, with the beaters, hurried off to beat for the tiger which had killed the previous day. We had to go about 4 miles to the machans and the beat did not actually start until 5.30 p.m.

From the very start it was quite obvious that there was something in the beat, as the " stops " were getting very excited. I heard a low growl in front but could see nothing. Shortly afterwards I looked up and saw tigers coming out of the beat like rabbits to Horan's machan !

There were three of them in a bunch.

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Horan downed one while the other two galloped past the machans giving impossible shots to both of us.

The beat finished and we got down to inspect Horan's animal. We found it to be a full grown tigress (8 ft. 4 in.) but it was obviously a young one of a family, the other young one and the mother having broken through.

While we were inspecting the tigress, I noticed that my bearer who always sits up in a tree about 20 yards behind me during a beat, had not come down. called to him and he said he could still see two tigers in the jungle quite close to his tree. We went over to have a look and I climbed the tree. I could clearly see the head of a tiger moving about and watching. It was then getting very dark so we decided that we must get out of the jungle and " hook it for home " as quickly as possible because it was obviously the mother hanging about for her other child. We both felt extremely uncomfortable as we did not know whether she would charge or not. It would have been a nasty show if she had charged as it was then already dusk.

We got the dead tigress bound on to a machan and had great difficulty in getting it back as the jungle was very thick and the beaters, decidedly shaken, would not carry it without any amount of pushing and cursing.

We managed to get it along somehow and finally reached the bungalow at 7.45 p.m. Luckily there was a moon or we should have fared very badly.

We had another kill on the 16th and I shot a small tigress. It was a normal beat and she gave no trouble

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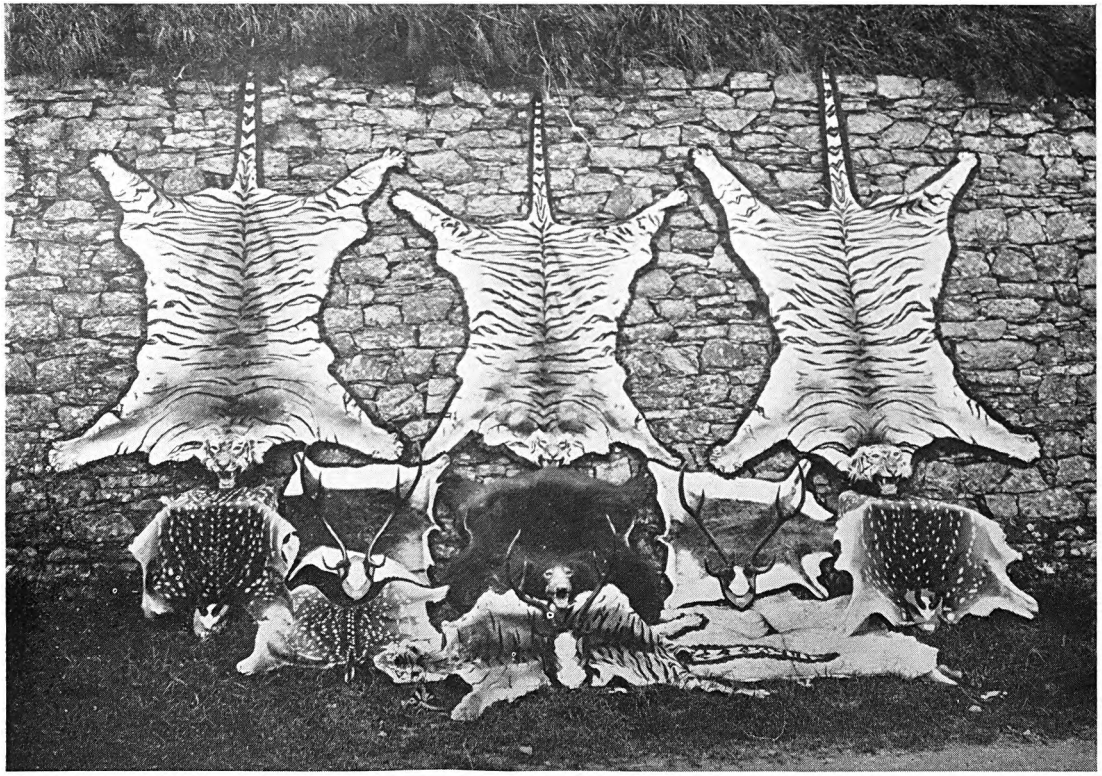

THE BAG.

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at all having been hit through the brain. We had one more kill on the 19th, but the beat proved blank.

We left Somanpillee on April 21 and did the 25 miles into Sironcha during the night of April 21/22. The only incident of the march worth mentioning, was that while passing through one of the worst man-eating parts of the Jungle, we suddenly noticed the absence of one of our bullock carts. We went back to look for it and found the cart standing still on the track about half a mile back with apparently no driver! We went up closer to it and found the driver sound asleep. We fell upon him, waking him up with such a jump that he really thought a tiger had come to eat him!

We travelled by night back to Chanda and finally reached Chakrata on April 29 after an excellent two months' leave.

Our total bag was as follows :—

4 Tigers (9 ft. 2 in., 9 ft. 1 in., 8 ft. 4 in., 7 ft. 6 in.).
3 Chital (35 in., 34½ in., 29 in.).
1 Bear (5 ft.).
2 Black Buck.
1 Nilgai.
2 Pig.

As a guide to others who may think of going down to the same district, the cost of the expedition was approximately Rs. 500 each per month.

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HORSES AND COURSES (Contd.)

By Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. Gerald Foljambe, D.S.O.

Arrived at Shorncliffe we found lodging in Sandgate, and stabling close by for our three horses, Enoch, a grey four-year-old given me by my father-in-law, who had bought him in North Ireland—and an old patent safety of my wife's called Lawyer. He was an old thief, and would not always jump till he thought he would. Prepared for the worst, I was very pleasantly surprised and enjoyed my winter immensely. Fanshawe was splendid about leave for hunting, quite rightly seeing its enormous value to a soldier. We used to hunt about two days a week with the East Kent and two days a week with the Drag, so our three horses were kept busy. Selby Lowndes was a fine huntsman in those huge woodlands, and had a very hard working pack of hounds. The vale was very short of foxes, but was ideal for the Drag. Poor Jackson in the 60th, who was killed in the War, was Master. He was always called Highgate Jackson, this being the name of a very good horse he had, that had won point-to-points all over England. The cavalry regiment usually ran the Drag; but the 11th looked down on it. Still even such ultra keen fox-hunters as Squeak Sutton and Toby Lakin occasionally came and had a dart with it too. The Drag was very good for training Enoch for point-to-points as he was not long out of his stable—nor had to go very long

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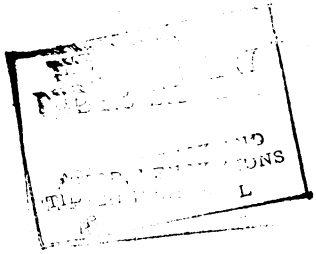

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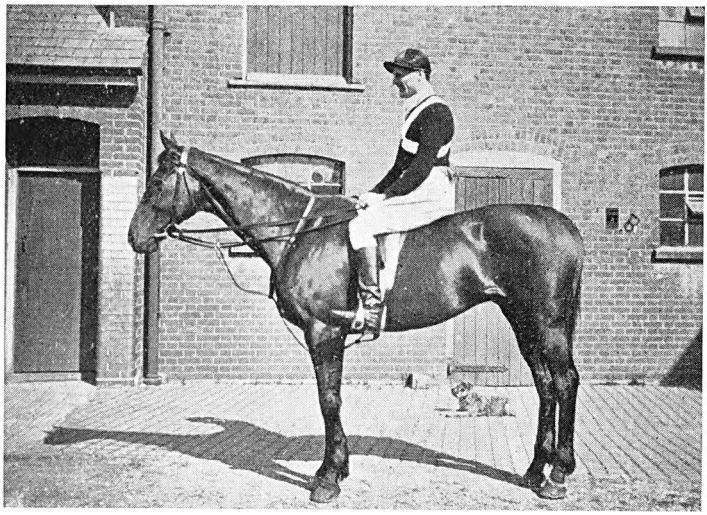
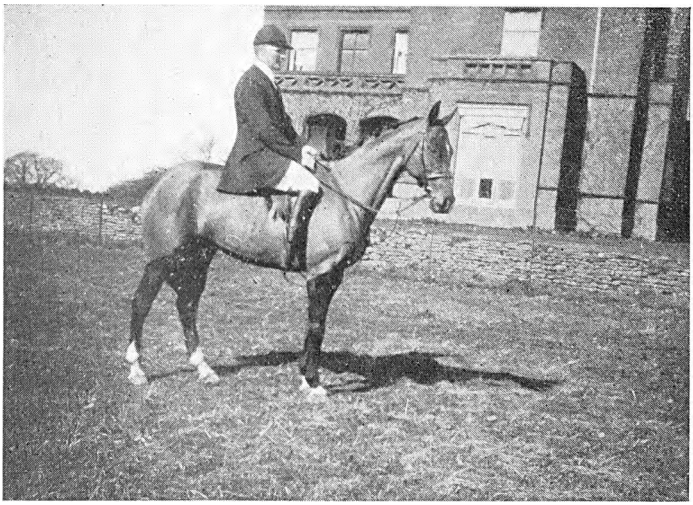


G.F. ON "ENOCH" by "WORKINGTON"—"THISTLE GROVE" (1912).



G.F. ON "BOMBARIA" BY "BOMBA"—"ROUNDELAY." WINNER OF LEICESTERSHIRE HUNT STEEPLECHASE, MELTON, 1925.

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distances. It also was a splendid school for my young grey, and he became very good indeed, I remember jumping a very high gate on him once, but I think I was out of the course.

When the spring came Enoch was very fit, he ran badly, however, in the first point-to-point, the Ashford Valley—being only 3rd, but it was a left-handed course. Next day the 11th had their races at Aldington, and in the Open Race were Jackson's good horse, Highgate, and Geoffrey Lockett's Castle Bagot, to both of whom Enoch had to give a stone, he having won a steeplechase. It was a very foggy day, and I told my wife, if I couldn't win, I should pull up and come in a certain way—however when the horses emerged from the fog, she saw me winning easily from these two cracks. Lockett never comes to my house now without sadly remarking that he chose the cup, as he thought he was certain to win it. He was also beaten in the Regimental Race on his second string, and this, of course, Castle Bagot would have won easily. So it still is a very sore point with him. That was Enoch's best point-to-point performance. I ran the grey, now a five-year-old, in the 60th Point-to-Point, but she did no good. Their regimental race was a terrible mêlée at the road. One horse ran down it and they all fell or collided. That week the *Tatler* came out with pictures of it headed the Kollapsible Race Rider's Point-to-Point, which they did not enjoy very much.

Enoch next ran in Mid-Kent Stag Point-to-Point, but met a terribly good horse, Fearless VII, ridden by Duke Leveson Gower. He won countless steeple-chases after. We two were a field in front of the rest,

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and he beat me a length or so. About this time I received an anonymous letter saying the writer thought Enoch the best point-to-point horse about there, and he hoped I'd run him at the Eastbourne Point-to-Point. As a matter of fact I had intended doing so, if it was a right-handed course, and hearing it was, went there and found they were running it the reverse way that year. Enoch was 2nd and certainly would have won had the last corner been to the right as he hung terribly and was only just beaten by a horse called Topthorne III. This was at Polegate.

The next autumn we moved to Aldershot. I got 1st leave and hunted from my wife's home with Lord Harrington's and odd days with Quorn and Belvoir. Lord Harrington was a wonderful old man, with flowing white whiskers, he hunted 6 days a week—4 in South Notts country and 2 days a week on Quorn forest side above Loughborough. I was very pleased to meet Leaf again with the Quorn. Frank Forester was master, and I remember nearly colliding with him on my grey about the first time out with them—however, we were the best of friends after. Teddie Brooks was at his zenith then, having learned judgment. I always say he was, and would be now, if he hadn't been killed by a sniper, four fields in front of anyone I ever saw ride to hounds. I bought a wonderful jumper for my wife up in Yorkshire, a mare with a big knee. Having such a disfigurement, and being such a performer, she became quite famous. At the end of my leave we sold my wife's other horse and the grey, who unfortunately had kicked back at a fence and dented a hind back tendon. I had either

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to lay him up, or chance people not minding it—unfortunately their vets. did. I was told at the sale at Leicester there were several rich people after him, with no limit orders. He was, as I have said, a very noticeable colour, like the Tetrarch, and the most jawbaceous of the Quorn field, since dead, had seen him jump a stile under a high bullfinch after Teddy Brooks which no one else took on—hence, perhaps the no limit—however, the vets. sent to buy looked at the tendon—and instead of a monkey as I was led to hope he only made £150. Poor old Wade did his best—as when he was run down he said " And here, perhaps, is the best young horse in Leicestershire, what will you say for him . . . ? " Instead of opening at a couple of hundred someone bid 50—all through this infernal knot on his tendon. Still I should have missed a lot of fun if I'd laid him up and got it clean and right, and he would not have made his name.

After all this we returned to Aldershot, a terrible contrast to the Quorn Monday Country. However, for the first time in his life, old Enoch was given a real chance of being properly trained, with the result that he won four steeplechases off the reel, one at Sandown, one at Melton, and two at Aldershot. After this " Snaffles," the artist, whose pictures appear in Fores' shop, came up to me, and said he'd followed him round, and backed him, nice prices too, 100 to 8, 3 to 1, 1 to 3, and 10 to 1, and he would paint a picture of me on him. I saw him three months after, and he came and said he couldn't get it quite, had I a snapshot, so I sent him one. Another three months elapsed, and he said he could not get the old horse properly, he carried his head very low. So, instead

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he sent me one of his sketches. I put down a great deal of the old horse's fitness this year to having got him sainfoin hay, which I have used ever since, but if anyone else follows my example have it weighed at your end, as this consignment was nearly a ton wrong in five, and funnily enough, I got some this year and one truck load of about 2½ tons was 6 cwt. wrong. Old Enoch was 15 years old, and this was far and away his best year. I forgot to say he started the year not too well. The Christ Church Grind at Oddington had an open race, and though he was not ready, I thought he'd not have much to beat. On arrival there, judge of my surprise to find a large field including two or three steeplechase winners, and several point-to-point winners. I think he was fourth or fifth, very heavy going I remember, and a lot of falls. I ran my wife's old big-knee mare in the Regimental race. She fell at a sort of gap, and her bridle came off; I think John Ballard won it. My chief delight at Aldershot was the steeplechase course. It was open three days a week to school round. Old Enoch, I'm sure, got more schooling than he required, but it was great fun, and the results were good. After Enoch's successes, I bought two three-year-olds, and a five-year-old. The latter killed himself at Aldershot, being frightened by some children when picketed, and broke away and dashed his brains out against a wall, the picket keeping his head down, so that he could not see. This accident reduced me to old big-knee as my charger that summer, and a more confidential one would have been hard to find. The only thing that ruffled her was an elephant we suddenly met round the corner on manœuvres in Norfolk. These manœuvres were to end my career

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as a soldier, at least so I then thought, as my fifteen years were up in February 1913, and I was allowed to go in September 1912. I remember riding the old mare in about twelve miles to Cambridge with pleasant thoughts of the life to come as a farmer. We went to live in Fernie's country, parts of it were nice, but it was too artificial, the wire was very bad in parts. The farms in a great many cases were in the hands of speculators, who held several farms, borrowed the money to buy cattle in March, and made or lost in September. Then the roads all ran through gates, and at every gate on a hunting day was an old rogue or a child looking for coppers, consequently foxes were headed. Arthur Thatcher was huntsman, a good, quick one too, and a wonder over a country. One of my three-year-olds was a terror to buck. I bought him from the Birdsall stud, and he was by Wales out of a Desmond mare. He was nearly seventeen hands, and a lovely horse, once you were on him, but he'd been badly broken in, and you could not get on him. I once lunged him for 1¼ hours, with one foreleg tied up, till the sweat was dripping off his stomach. I then was thrown up, and on three legs he sent me ten yards almost before I'd touched the saddle. I gave him best that day. I found a very simple way out of the difficulty by putting a racing hood on him. I now really thought I had a national horse, as he was a lovely jumper. I remember my wife riding him in quite a good hunt that winter. The time had come to give him a school over steeplechases fences. I had a course close by, and Teddie Brooks often used to bicycle over before breakfast, fourteen miles, ride a school, and go back, refusing to stop to breakfast, then hunt all day with the

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Quorn. It would be hard to find anyone nowadays who would do that, but not nearly so hard as to find anyone to compare with him over a country. Teddie however, could not come for Wild Blood's 1st school, so I put a numb handed groom up on Enoch, and rode my four-year-old myself. All went well till the fifth fence, when he jumped a mile in the air and went on on three legs. I jumped off, and looked at his near hind leg which he was carrying, and there was a stub so tight in I couldn't pull it out. The old beast who had made the fences had chopped the ends of the birch off on the take off, and this was the result, and ruined a great horse. Although he did get right to some extent, and win a steeplechase at Melton, he lost his speed, and never was more than a real good hunter. He became my wife's hunter, and she was very fond of him. My other three-year-old was bred by my uncle, and became a fair hunter. I sold him to a man near Nottingham, and rode him for him in Lord's Harrington point-to point. It was the best thing I was ever on, but it was a warm day, and though I never ride without woollen gloves, I did that day, and at a drop fence he made a bit of a sprawl, and the reins ran through my fingers. When I picked them up they were like soap, as he was a very free sweater, and I never could get a hold of him again, he was such a big, leathering horse. So the good thing came undone and I was beaten half a length by a man out of Nottingham who crossed me at the last fence. A lady told me afterwards she didn't think I could use such language! I could probably have got the race, but he didn't mean to do it—so there it ended.

Enoch did not win a race, he only ran three times, I

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think: 2nd at Melton and 2nd, beaten by a neck, at Derby, after being carried out into the middle of the course by a loose horse—cruel luck. In those days the Derby course was very sporting. You went away into the country, and there was a big drop fence, which frightened the professional racing people. Now it is the usual park course, and easy at that.

The next season, 1913–14, we were still at Burton Overy. Big Knee had distinguished herself during the summer, but luckily not hurt herself, by running away with my chain harrows—so she was neither ornamental nor useful, but a very good hunter.

I remember no outstanding hunt, but we had some good sport on the Monday side which borders the Atherstone—an easy country and our bit pretty free of wire. Such famous coverts as Walton Holt, John and Jane Ball were great draws. Enoch won his last race that spring at Chelmsford. A queer course that, and terribly mined by moles. You gallop round a church, and that day the open ditch was bank high with water. The groom I had then was an excellent groom, but used to imbibe, and when he got back to Kilworth, luckily I was there to meet him, he was helpless. So I left him there, having threatened to kill him, and took the horse home and did him up. In August that year came the most awful catastrophe that has ever happened to England and the world—the only reference to it here necessary concerns my charger, a horse called Lindrick by Lord Bobs out of Soligena, the dam of Wet Kiss and other famous horses. I bought him as a four-year-old and sold him to the Government as my charger. I got him back twice on going out to France again, and won a hurdle race

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on him there at a Cavalry Brigade Gymkhana. I even got him home in 1919, and five days after he had his leg broken by an officer in the A.S.C., when out with the Belvoir.

We had now moved into the Belvoir country to Buckminster, and found it a much pleasanter place. Our home-field fence is the boundary between the Cottesmore and the Belvoir—the latter, of course, have been under a cloud for some time, but the Cottesmore Saturday country is, I think, the finest country in the world. It is between Oakham and Uppingham, and even better than the Quorn Monday, but it requires the best and fittest of horses as it is so hilly—and such huge enclosures—a large crowd in that country melts if hounds run. I am sure I have written too much, and we are coming to recent times, so I will finish. Leaf was with the Cottesmore under Lonsdale, and we had some very good fun that season, 1919–20. We had some good horses—one I bought from Johnny Grant of Westmeath fame—they would not allow horses back into Ireland from France, so I got her cheap. She was a brute, but won the Belvoir Open Race that year and I sold her well after my accident. I won the light-weight race, too, at the Belvoir Point-to-Point on a horse I bought from a farmer close by. He was a good horse; he sold well, too. Just when I looked to be going to have a really successful season I had an accident at Southwell on Easter Saturday. It was very unfortunate as I took the horse Francis II, another of my uncle's breeding, there, hoping Harry Brown's Llangollen would not be there—however, he was. It was a horrible wet day and up to your neck. So as we were there I

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thought I'd go two miles and then pull up. There were only three runners—at the two miles my horse was going better and outjumping Llangollen at every fence, so much so, that George Williamson (Manifesto's jockey) ran down and backed mine in running. Next fence the 3rd horse fell, and at the water Llangollen did—Francis made the most awful blunder, and must have hit himself; however, being the only one standing up I had to go on, even on three legs. He climbed over the next two fences, then came the open ditch. I thought to myself, now I'm for it, but he jumped it beautifully, got over the next, then came the last—he was so beat, he could hardly raise a canter, he got his forelegs over, but caught his hind and fell on me. Harry Brown was now coming like blazes, so I pulled my leg out from under him and jumped up, but the horse lay there, knocked out. I looked down and saw my boot was sticking out at right angles, so thought it had been pulled off, and bent down to pull it on—but saw the top was at the right place—so guessed my leg was broken. An onlooker pulled me down and put a tourniquet on as the artery was cut, and after a damnable time—a stretcher that wouldn't open, and no disinfectants—I was taken to Nottingham and had my foot cut off, as every bone in the ankle was broken. The result of this has been a great improvement in first-aid arrangements at National Hunt meetings. That race settled Francis. I had got him round the National Hunt course 11th of 40 I think, but he couldn't stay two miles let alone four, and he never won a race afterwards. Five years after I had a much worse fall at Weatherby on Lady Biddy, rather a famous mare in those parts that I got

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from Oliver Dixon. I won the Belvoir Point-to-Point on her by three fields, and the second won the Pytchley Open Race after. She also won the Ladies' Purse at Melton, and I won a second race, the Leicestershire Hunt Steeplechase, on a dear little mare called Bombaria that I bought after a selling two-year-old race at Salisbury when we were training at Lark Hill with the 6th Battalion. My wife used to ride her in the evenings with me on Lindrick. Thinking Biddy a wonderful jumper I took her to Weatherby, the next stiffest course to Liverpool, and at the second fence she laid me out; which still affects my eyes. So though I've been lucky in number of falls, I've not been lucky as regards severity. My horse-buying now is confined to yearlings at Newmarket—the one age when the buyer knows nearly as much as the seller, and I find it the best way—breeding is too expensive, though terribly fascinating. My ewe lamb now, which I hope to win the Derby of 1930 with, is out of a mare I bred from a yearling I bought in the first year of the war, and incidentally the most brilliant mare I ever rode over Leicestershire. She was the first yearling I ever bought, and besides her capacity as a hunter her only two foals have been winners. Now I really must end with the comment that great though the interest and pleasure one gets out of horses are—the disappointments are always there. I speak feelingly as my best horse has just lamed himself when two races appeared at his mercy. However, the best of my fun I owe to Horse and Hound.

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WATERLOO LETTERS

THE following letters, which are believed not to have been published before, are now printed by permission of Mrs. Bond, of Moigne Combe, Dorset, who kindly lent copies to Major-General H. R. Davies.

The letters are published as being of some historical interest, and not with any desire to revive old controversies. The spelling of the names has been left unaltered as in the original.—EDITOR.

MEMORANDUM BY LORD SEATON, ACCOMPANYING LETTER TO COL. BENTHAM

The 52nd. Regt. crossed the road running in the direction of Hougomont, and halting in the low ground formed two squares. A large mass of cavalry menaced several times the front and right faces of the square nearest Hougomont and these faces opened fire, on which the cavalry retired, but not far.

At the same time two guns opened on the same square, enfilading the left face of it—a shell burst at the angle killing and wounding several men. At this moment Colonel Rowan said to Sir John Colborne, "Do you think we can stand this." He replied, "But you see it is not a simultaneous attack."

A few minutes afterwards Col. Harvey, an A.D.C. of the Duke of Wellington, rode into the square and delivered the message, "The Duke wishes you to retire up the hill." Sir John Colborne replied,

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" Acquaint the Duke, if he thinks that we are too exposed, that we are not suffering from the fire of those guns." " Very well," he said, " I will mention that."

There was however a sudden rush of several companies of the Nassau Regiment out of the wood of Hougomont, from which it was supposed that the wood was occupied by the enemy. Therefore the 52nd. formed two lines from square and retired up the slope to the *left* [should be *right*] of Sir John Byng's Brigade.

A few minutes before the 52nd. began to retire an officer galloped out from the French cavalry down the hill shouting " Vive le Roi " and riding up to Sir John Colborne and Col. Rowan stated that Napoleon was advancing " there " pointing to the road leading to la Haye Sainte, to attack with his columns.

Sir John Colborne retired with this officer in rear of the 52nd., passing through the batteries commanded by Col. Gould, and after posting the 52nd. in line, ordered the Adjutant to take the wounded to the rear.

At about half-past six o'clock, after he had been looking anxiously at the dense columns moving towards la Haye Sainte and afterwards advancing on that road, he ordered the 52nd. to wheel to the left on the left company.

This brought the 52nd. parallel with the French column of attack. A strong company commanded by Lieut. Anderson was ordered to extend, skirmish in front and feel the enemy, and the Regt. immediately advanced.

The French column feeling the fire of the Skirm-

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ishers, appeared checked, halted and opened a heavy fire on the 52nd.

The Imperial Troops had been in movement up to this period and no forward movement on the part of the Guards had as yet taken place.

Lord Hill said a few days afterwards, "I saw the 52nd. moving across the plain."

It is therefore believed that the flank movement of the 52nd. and the advance afterwards of Sir H. Clinton's division, compelled the French Column to halt and whatever movement on the part of the Guards took place must have been ordered after the 52nd. had occasioned the halt of the French.

The 52nd. as they closed on the French saw only in their front the troops opposed to them.

The French Cavalry on the right of the 52nd. had retired, having probably been withdrawn when the Prussians first appeared marching on Planchenoit.

The 52nd. passed in front of the Brigade of Guards commanded by Sir John Byng, advancing always on the Imperial Guards who had wheeled from Column and continued their fire till the 52nd. arrived at the crest of the deep road which divided them. They then dispersed and the 52nd. crossing the road advanced in pursuit. At this time General Bulow's skirmishers appeared on the left of the 52nd. and firing increased in the direction of Planchenoit.

The 52nd. must have been at least half an hour moving on the flank of the French, from the time the Regiment first wheeled till the charge took place.

The crisis may be called the period when the French Columns advancing with the intention of penetrating our centre were checked and compelled to halt by the

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flank movement and fire of the 52nd. This was the first appearance of a change in our favour. The attacking were attacked and checked in their assault, and driven back from the ground they had gained before they could deploy.

The whole of the Imperial Columns advanced at the same time and their flank was first attacked by the 52nd. before any forward movement had been made to check them in front. The Prussians could not have attracted the attention of the French so as to cause the throwing back of the right wing till after the Imperial Guards had commenced their attack on our centre.

The 52nd. marched in pursuit till 9½ o'clock. Bulow's Column passed at the cross road near Belle Alliance. Colonel Percy was ordered by the Duke to convey a message to Sir H. Clinton to advance with his Division and saw the 52nd. *advancing along the plain* as he left the Duke and before any movement whatever could have been made by the Guards.

The 52nd. opened fire when some squadrons of our own Cavalry appeared in front of their left company; this impeded their march for some minutes.

No Regt. except the 52nd. fired on the flank of the Imperial Guards. The 52nd. having been actually engaged closely with the division of the halted columns for half-an-hour, and the Imperial Guards were not finally dispersed till the 52nd. charged up the hill close to the road behind which the Imperial Guard had been half an hour, it may be said, in position.

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EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF THE 2ND. LORD SEATON TO GENERAL THOMAS PEACOCKE OR SIR WARREN PEACOCKE (not known which) DATE 22nd. MAY, 1870, GIVING APPARENTLY THE 1ST. LORD SEATON'S NARRATIVE OF WATERLOO AS OFTEN HEARD BY THE 2ND. LORD SEATON.

After having been brought up from the slough of despond down at Mere Braine, marched up to Hugumont, back again to behind projecting hill of Hugumont, between that and Nivelles Pavé, then over Hugumont Hill again, down slope across valley. They and the 71st. and 95th. after 4 o'clock were stuck out near the causeway in front of Hugumont fields in square for hours. Here Lord Seaton by moving about on horseback was just able to observe well the "causeway" up which several hours afterwards the French Guard advanced. He was here also able to observe from the top of this causeway La Belle, La Haie, our lines in general and what sort of an attack was going on at Hugumont.

Back then they were bundled the whole of Adams', from this advanced post, down the slope, across again the valley up the slope, over the hill again to the old place down in hollow between that and Nivelles Pavé. This extraordinary retirement was what, as Charras mentions, gave Napoleon an idea that the Duke was retreating, and the French Guard an idea also that their left flank was secure. Lord S. however remained there chiefly in advance of Regt. up on top of the hill, that projecting one over Hugumont, and there he was again able on horseback to watch the course of the battle—he was able to see La Belle and the Guard

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manœuvring, a French cavalry officer, deserter, explaining the whole concern to him, and this was where and when he imagined the value of the subsequent move; he observed their advance step by step from La Belle along the length of the causeway and some along the Charleroi Pavé—screaming, shouting, drumming to an immense extent, seeing them then clearly in close column and in thick masses. He waited till they had advanced sufficiently to expose their flank, waved his handkerchief to Charles Rowan, afterwards of the Police. They (52nd.) passed over the Hugumont Hill as hard as they could, descended the slope, across the plain or hollow or valley by the corner of Hugumont—up the slope over their old position, actually marching over their own former dead and wounded, reached the top of the natural causeway, passed through the French column, driving most of them into the deep hollow or valley between the causeway and the Charleroi Pavé.

Here they found and encountered fresh bodies of the Imperial Guard still keeping their formation!! Having then crossed the Pavé, they turned up to La Belle and on passing La Belle they saw the whole French army in a panic and flying, the whole of their old lines deserted.

The hills on left covered with Prussians. They (52nd.) then passed La Belle some distance, men in high spirits swinging on for Genappe when to their eternal disgust they were halted, shoved off the Pavé on to the fields and ordered to allow the Prussians to pass. He rode back to get permission to follow, found our army on their old lines and Duke gone to Waterloo to write that celebrated despatch that com-

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pletely changed the whole concern. Not finding the Duke, Lord S. returned to the Regt. beyond La Belle, found men and officers in a fearful temper at seeing the Prussians taking the bread out of their mouths.

But from all this you can imagine that he saw a good bit of the whole conclusion and his astonishment at reading the despatch at Paris was enormous and nobody was more astonished than Byng and the Guards.

[In other letters the 2nd Lord Seaton mentions that he had been over the battlefield of Waterloo with his father who had explained the action of the 52nd. in the most detailed manner to him and also that he had heard him describe the battle "a thousand times" and that his story never varied. The above description can therefore doubtless be relied on as accurate.—ED.]

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GOOD SHOOTING—*contd.*

By Lieut.-Colonel H. L. Ruck-Keene, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Two mores tales and I have finished with that delectable shoot at Hambleden, where I enjoyed many topping days subsequently. The head-keeper resembled Mr. Jorrocks's famous huntsman, James Pigg, in that he was " a man of no blandishment " and not inclined to mince his words for anyone. On one occasion the aforementioned song-writer arrived late (as was his unfortunate habit), thereby losing the first stand of the day. " Hope I haven't missed much ? " said he to the keeper, to which that worthy replied, " Not 'arf as much as you would 'ave if you'd been 'ere ! " At another stand the pheasants were very high and difficult and the Colonel of the Regiment was somewhat defeated by them. At the end of the beat he remarked to the keeper, " Afraid I didn't do much good there, Smith." And Mr. Smith replied, "No, you didn't, Captin', but, lor', if they'd only come out behind first what a lot you would a' killed ! " (Only he didn't say " behind " !) The bag as recorded in my game-book for the season 1900-1901 amounted to 6,999 head, although a note on the above states that I had very little shooting after the end of 1900 ! The season 1901-1902 calls for little comment, outstanding days being November 9, 1901, when eight guns killed 308 pheasants and 174 rabbits, with a total of 510 head. Again on December of the

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same year at Studley Priory, near Oxford, seven guns killed 458 head of which 101 were cock-pheasants and 352 rabbits. On the last day of 1901 I find myself shooting at T—— in Cornwall, the residence of a cousin of mine who, himself a first-class shot, endeavoured to make his pheasants the highest in England—and I firmly believe he succeeded. Abounding as that part of the world does, in deep valleys or combes, my relative used to "shave off" all the trees and undergrowth on the sides and plant fir-coverts on the tops with the result that every bird that got up was bound to be a real "snorter" for the guns below. On this occasion the presence in the house of a contingent of the famous Blue Hungarian Band was hardly conducive to a straight eye the next day when one had danced up to 1 or 2 a.m. the same day, but it was all glorious fun.

To cut a long story short, the bag at T—— on this visit (the third time through the coverts, by the way) amounted, in seven days' shooting, to 1,247 pheasants, 50 hares, 34 woodcock and a total of 1,324 head, and on three of these days our total "strength" was three guns.

I began the following season by shooting grouse with Fitzwilliam on his moors near Sheffield on August 12 and 13. In those days "dogging" was the order and a pretty good grind it used to be; we were a party of six guns and divided into pairs with the result that at the end of the first day the bag was 122 grouse and 11 hares of which "the Lord" (then Billy Milton) and I accounted for 26 brace. The good folks from Sheffield used to come out in great force on "the glorious twelfth" and would line the road

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across the moor in horse-drawn "charas" and other vehicles and, on occasions, "back the bird." I find an entry on October 15 when, shooting from Shirburn Castle, seven of us killed 671 head, of which 602 were bunnies. Studley Priory again furnished the record for this season, for on December 3 eight of us slew 225 pheasants and 502 rabbits with a total at the end of the day of 739 head. Some shoot! (In connection with the Studley shoot it may be interesting to note that seldom, if ever, did the South Oxfordshire or Bicester hounds draw these coverts blank and the same proud record still continues.) On August 12 of the following season I had another day over dogs after Fitzwilliam's grouse when six of us (in pairs) killed 135 grouse and seven hares—incidentally a rather different bag from that of a day in August of the present year when on the same moor eight of us killed in a day's driving 250 brace. It is perhaps worthy of note that these moors are within eight miles of the busy town of Sheffield and that one cannot pick up a grouse without getting one's hands black, and yet a finer specimen of the grouse-bird one can never hope to see. A visit to Scotland for dogging resulted in a bag of 526 grouse and a total of 564 head, four guns shooting in pairs on three whole days and three afternoons. Later on, in September, 1903, I was one of a party of six guns for partridge-driving over a shoot taken by my aforesaid cousin near Tattershall in Lincolnshire. With our head-quarters at Woodhall Spa we shot on September 29, 95 brace of partridges and 46 hares; next day 73 brace and 34 hares; on October 1, 102 brace and 21 hares and next day 66 brace and 38 hares—672 partridges in four days.

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Hares on this shoot were hardly bothered about for the farmers were allowed to shoot them whenever they had a mind, while the coverts were adjudged too flat to provide a good pheasant and so my relative used to breed some 600 for the farmers to shoot. "O fortunati agricolæ!"—to quote the classics. It may be of interest to add that subsequently my cousin bought 1,000 French partridge eggs to improve the driving—a rash experiment perhaps, but it is a notable fact that in the season following one day's driving yielded a bag of no less than 345 brace.

Early in January, 1904, I found myself at T——, in Cornwall, again, when we accounted for 1,017 pheasants, 40 hares, 17 wild duck and 25 woodcock, and a total of 1,134 head in four days, with seven guns the first three days and five on the last. On the second day the locale was practically adjoining the cliffs beyond which there was nothing but the sea between us and America. A gale was blowing from the north with occasional bitter storms of snow and sleet, the result being that the pheasants—always very difficult here—were ten times more so on this occasion and, although we were by no means an indifferent side (though perhaps as one of the team I ought not to say so!) the percentage of hits to rounds expended would have turned white the hair of any musketry-instructor. At one stand a lady coming out to lunch counted 250 shots and 20 birds were picked up! The unfortunate part of shooting at birds at such a height is that so many are hit and carry on for a long way behind and I recollect that after the day referred to no less than 67 pheasants were picked up dead. One sees just a little "duck" of the bird's tail in

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response to one's despairing effort but that tiny quiver means that the pheasant, in nine cases out of ten, is a dead bird. For one beat on this day there used to be a stand in the main street of a little seaport village, the birds flying clean over the houses to the opposite hill. One used to be surrounded by ancient Cornish fisher-folk and some tin-miners, most of whom "backed the bird," no doubt to the considerable profit of the layers of odds, while children darted between and round one's legs to pick up the empty cartridge-cases. After the first stand of the day my eldest brother was seized with a brain-wave, for spotting the game-cart coming down the road, after the second stand (a very unproductive one) was over, we made an organized attack on the said cart and strewed its contents about the field in which we had been standing. My cousin had gone round the top of the hill to score off any cocks that flew back and when he and the old head-keeper appeared at the end of the covert the latter remarked on seeing the quantity of pheasants laid out in the field where we had stood, "Well, they ain't done so bad after all!" All would have been well but for the fact that my brother had, in his haste, deposited many birds in front of the guns whereas any pheasant killed at this stand must have fallen some 50 yards or more behind them. This was duly noted by my cousin and the leg-pull failed ignominiously.

August 23 and 22 of 1904 would appear to be the dates of the initiation of driving the grouse on Fitzwilliam's moors near Sheffield, for I find that on the 22nd—a day of torrential rain—seven of us killed 100 brace, and the next day 150 brace of grouse. About

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this time I seem to have formed my first connection with the shooting over the Oxford Sewage Farm, or, to put it more euphemistically, the Corporation Lands. What a lot of fun we used to have over the said " Stink-farm " and how the soldiery, who acted as beaters, loathed the job of tramping over the sewage-beds ! Naturally, there were quantities of snipe on this ground, but, as a rule, far too wild to be walked up and so we used to take cover behind " inspection-chambers " while the said soldiery tried to drive the birds over us. And let me add that the snipe shot on this land were excellent eating though the fastidious might turn up their noses at the idea of eating them, but it should be remembered that the snipe lives by suction and that in the case of sewage-farms, so far from living on the sewage itself, he merely takes advantage of the softness of the ground in order to dig his long bill further in to gather the minute insects on which he feeds. Fifty-nine woodcock were killed in five days at T—— in the early days of 1905 in addition to 600 pheasants and other sorts of game. One needed hard weather " up country " to make a real bag of woodcock in Cornwall and in such conditions I have seen 71 killed in a single day's shooting. On October 20, 1905, shooting at my old home on the Chilterns, the bag to eight guns came to 758 head, of which 665 were rabbits. Two other days in November of the same year stand out prominently ; on the 15th a party of eight of us from Studley Priory killed 221 pheasants and 360 rabbits with a total of 585 head, while on the 23rd from the same place nine guns accounted for 197 pheasants and 345 rabbits with a total bag of 645 head. I still had

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the shooting of the Sewage-farm and could produce a fairly satisfactory balance-sheet at the end of the season by the sale of rabbits. In those days I became the proud possessor of one of the first motor-cars ever put on the road—a Benz double dog-cart which I bought from an undergraduate for £11! Space will not permit a recital of all my adventures and misadventures (the latter largely in the majority) with this historic 'bus, but it came in very useful at times on the Sewage-farm when at the end of a day I used to come home with the car festooned with dead rabbits and the children of the village used to flock round with rude cries of "Buy 'are-skins, rabbit-skins!" By the way I find many entries in my game-books of those days of landrail being included in the bag. Not for many seasons now have I seen one of those elusive birds and whether their disappearance is due to the use of artificial manures or some other cause it seems certain that the landrail or corncrake will soon be an extinct fowl in England. A pity, because when properly spatchcocked there were few birds to beat it from the gastronomical point of view!

On October 19 and 20, 1906, eight guns shooting at Swyncombe, my old Oxfordshire home, killed, over the same ground each day, 727 rabbits, 76 hares and a total of 852 head of game. The Sewage-farm yielded during this season a total of 526 head, of which 52 were partridges, 56 snipe, and 395 rabbits. A most amusing gent in the person of the then Radical Member for Oxford city used to shoot with me occasionally, and I may say that I invited him more for the pleasure of his company than on account of his prowess with the gun, which was by no means first-class. On one

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occasion he and I were ferreting rabbits which crossed, when bolted, a rather narrow road in front of the Hon. Member. Nine bunnies crossed and "Buggins" (no relation to our gallant Editor!) had two barrels at each of them and missed the lot. A few days later there was a debate in the Commons on the damage caused to the poor struggling farmer from inroads by pheasants and partridges. (I fancy this was before the days of Mr. Lloyd George's outburst in the celebrated pheasant-mangel-wurzel affair?) Anyway the Member for Oxford must needs put in his oar and made a speech in which he declared that he knew all about shooting, in fact, he finished by saying, "I am a very fair rabbit-shot myself." (Laughter.) Of course I wrote to the gallant member calling his recollection to those rabbits—nine in number—and got a most amusing letter in reply. His statement in the House was what was known later as a "terminological inexactitude." I was only able to get second leave in the winter of 1907-1908, which would appear to be attributable to bad Staff work on the part of the powers that were and so the total bag for the season—2,462 head—was, comparatively speaking, insignificant, as most of the big shoots were over before I got home. I notice that this season is described by me as being the worst on record for partridges, also that there were thousands of wood-pigeons, all foreigners said to come from Scandinavia and nearly all suffering from a form of diphtheria which made them unfit for human food. The following season is described in the game-book as a poor one, partridges being again only a very moderate crop but a visit to Cornwall in December, 1908, came to the rescue. On the 15th

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of the month seven of us killed 170 pheasants, the following day 416, next day 307, next day 361 and next day (three guns) 102, with a total of 1,410 head for five days. John Ballard, Bartlett and I had some good fun in an afternoon on the Oxford Sewage-farm, where a field of beans was being cut and we got 76 rabbits out of it. This season was again a very bad one for partridges and in fact my experience teaches me that a good partridge-year *may* occur once in every seven seasons and no oftener. The old Smell-farm produced 413 head, of which 30 were partridges and 35 snipe.

If I may venture to refer once more to Scott Murray's shoot in the Thames Valley I would mention November 4 of 1910 when eight of us killed 442 pheasants and 113 hares, with a total at the end of the day of 581 head. The season 1911-1912 appears to call for no special remarks but it is recorded that at last it was a good partridge-year, the celebrated Sewage-farm producing 117, the guns on various occasions being John Ballard, John Portal, Sweeny Scott, B. C. Parr, Benson, Ponsonby and the writer. This was destined to be my last season on the old Oxford Sewage-farm.

On November 7, 1912, seven of us shot over some 300 acres of ground rented by my eldest brother, 20 pheasants and 372 rabbits and among the guns were "P" and D.B. The unfortunate lady who owned this ground had been deluded enough to turn most of it into a fruit-farm with large fields of strawberries, orchards of fruit-trees and so forth and as the whole farm was in a derelict condition the place was a regular haven for rabbits. These had been "stunk out"

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before-hand and most of the day was spent in walking them up in the open—to my mind the most sporting of all shooting. It may be of interest to record that six of us shooting on December 7 over the same ground killed 280 rabbits in like fashion. So much for fruit-farming. Shooting at T—— in Cornwall on December 9, 1913, six guns killed 524 pheasants; next day 249; the following day 361 and this was to be my last visit to that best of all pheasant-shoots, for the place was sold soon afterwards. Then came the War during which the shooting, though frequent, was of a far more unpleasant nature than on those happy days recorded above. Nevertheless I bagged my heaviest weight of game for one day on Boxing Day of 1917, when my "H.Q." were quartered at the Château of Bus-en-Artois. A few days previous to this Christmas I made a trip in one of our lorries to Albert where I bought three barrels of beer—incidentally the best I ever tasted—and on Christmas Day we all made merry with the contents, supplemented by those excellent plum-puddings which good folks at home used to send out. The result was that in many cases, including my own, a "thick 'ead" arrived the following morning and so, as there was apparently nothing doing in the way of war, I borrowed an antique gun from my host, M. Bouthors, and set forth in pursuit of wood-pigeons of which there were swarms in the Bois de Bus. Fortunately the few cartridges which I had been able to buy in Doullens were loaded with No. 4 shot, for, as I advanced down a snow-covered ride a strange thing happened, as Rider Haggard would say. All of a sudden there arose from the brambles close to the ride a gaunt figure of a pig with

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enormous wicked-looking tusks who proceeded to shake the snow off himself and then glanced at me with a most malevolent eye. At first I thought the animal was a boar belonging to one of the villagers of Bus, but then the beast rose and came towards me in a very menacing attitude and I guessed it was a wild boar from the Forêt d'Artois which had probably been driven down by the severity of the weather. I promptly let go at the brute at a range of some fifteen yards and aimed low in the hopes of crippling it, wherein fortunately I was successful for the boar sunk down in the snow making most horrible noises the while. Now I wondered what to do next, but by good luck two Irish Guardsmen, who apparently had been out on a foray, appeared on the scene and I called them, asking if either had a clasp-knife. One of them had and I told him to go and cut the boar's throat, whereupon the gallant Irishman, thinking, as I had done, that the animal was of the farmyard variety, advanced boldly and, striding over the body, cut the throat from ear to ear in a most scientific manner. We then fastened the boar's legs to a stout pole and made a triumphant procession to the Château, where I gave the Irishmen the unconsumed portion of the beer left over from Christmas Day, amounting to about a gallon per man. The excitement among the old folks of Bus was intense when the news got abroad and I was hailed in the village for some time afterwards as "M. le Colonel qui a tué le grand sanglier!" Our hostess (who, by the way, had twelve children) cooked the boar's head to perfection and I gave her one of the hams in exchange; the rest of the animal went to my "H.Q." Staff, who, how-

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ever, failed to appreciate it, declaring that the food was very strong and tough, which I could quite imagine as judging by the tushes and other portions of the boar's anatomy he was a very old customer.

My lot up here now is cast in pleasant places so far as hunting and shooting are concerned. The bags are smaller than they used to be, principally because the humble bunny is hardly looked upon as a beast of venery and, as a rule in these parts, becomes the prey of the miner and his "long-dog" but I can get to a grouse-moor by car in a little over an hour and the surrounding country is first-class for partridges. Indeed, in a decent year, bags of 100 brace are quite common and two seasons ago, on an estate close by, 158 brace were killed on one day, to be followed by 142 brace the following day. Owing to the flat nature of the ground the cult of the high pheasant is more or less impossible, though in certain places one may come across a really good bird, but, since I have been in these parts, I have never seen one to come up to the old T—— standard, and don't suppose I ever shall. It should also be remembered that since the war there are very few places where pheasants are hand-reared as they used to be in the good old days.

Perhaps a few words of advice and a few hints may be allowed as coming from an old shooter to the younger generation. First, I would impress on the young shooter the importance of those lines which the late King Edward had framed and hung up in his smoking-room at Sandringham :—

> Never, never let your gun
> Pointed be at any one.
> All the pheasants ever bred
> Won't make up for one man dead.

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In grouse, or partridge-drive never "follow your bird round," bearing in mind that although the moment may be almost infinitesimal there *is* a moment when your gun is actually pointed at your next-door neighbour and so you are acting in direct conflict with the first two lines of the above-mentioned verse. The practice is only too prevalent and I have seen first-class shots guilty of it. Always carry your gun pointing up to the sky or down to the ground and if you are shooting with two guns see that your loader does the same; the practice of carrying a gun "at the trail" is a heinous offence. Be doubly careful to see that your gun is unloaded before getting into your car or entering a house. Always take your cartridges out before getting over a fence, and this again is a vital rule which I see ignored frequently. So much for safety; the following hints may also be of use. If a covey of partridges or grouse is coming toward you take the leading bird and fairly far out, too, in front of you; by so doing you have a chance of getting in your second barrel in good time. Also taking your bird well in front may have the effect of making the covey split up, thereby giving chances to the guns on your right or left. Parenthetically, by adopting this practice you may gain merit as happened to me last season when we were driving partridges in a gale of wind and two coveys came over me, miles high and going at heaven knows how many m.p.h. On each occasion I loosed off at the leading bird and on each the *last* bird in the covey fell dead. Great congratulations in consequence on my prowess, but, like Brer Rabbit, I "lay low and said nuffin." If a pack of some 200 grouse comes straight for your

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butt don't get "flummoxed" but pick your bird and stick to him and, above all, never fire into the brown which is not only un-sportsmanlike but generally unproductive. A huge pack of grouse such as one sees late in the season is an awe-inspiring spectacle but "if you can keep your head while all around you are losing theirs" you will be able to deal with the birds effectively. All the same, from my own personal experience, I am inclined to think the above words are counsels of perfection! Anyway, if grouse are coming at you in a succession of coveys or packs never turn round in your butt, but try to take as many as possible in front. Shooting high pheasants is, to my mind, a knack only to be acquired by practice, and the art cannot be learnt by allowing so many feet or yards in front of the bird, a practice which only leads to "poking." Wait till the bird, if coming straight at you, is almost over your head and then "up and at him," swinging your gun well in front. Instinct will show you in time how far ahead you should swing, but, believe me, you are far more likely to kill a real "snorter" in this fashion than by beginning your aim at the bird when he is a long way off and carefully following him until the moment is reached when you think proper to shoot. One often hears a shooter remark after he has missed a real good one—"Can't understand it—I gave him at least ten yards in front." The man doesn't really know that he allowed all this distance and, in nine cases out of ten, he only thought he did. Remember that to kill a *really* high pheasant there is only one place where one can hit him with a prospect of killing him—and that is under his beak.

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WITH THE TURKS:

(This diary was written on rather dirty bits of paper, which became rather smudged before I got an opportunity to copy it. Also the circumstances under which it was kept were trying in every way, and one had to trust to scraps of information we picked up, as we were not free to go about and find out things. So that if any arguments crop up concerning it, except in a few cases, I am not in a position to verify statements in it, though to the best of my belief they are accurate as far as they go.)

By Major C. F. Henley.

Surrender of Kut-el-Amara on April 19, 1916, *and March into Turkey as far as Rass-el-Ain and on by train and road to Yozgad* (*Anatolia*).

April 27, 1916.

After having withstood the siege for 143 days, we were at last compelled to surrender as rations (¼ lb. bread, 18 ozs. meat (mule or horse)) were finished. General Townsend asked for parole to be given the garrison on condition we handed over all guns, rifles, ammunition, stores, etc., intact. This was refused by Enver Pasha, the Turkish General, who replied saying "nothing but an unconditional surrender would be accepted"; which decision was passed round on April 27, 1916, and on the 29th, we surrendered to Khalil Pasha.

April 28, 1916.

All the guns, a large percentage of rifles, and various stores were destroyed; all day the explosions of the guns, being blown up, could be heard. During the night all ammunition, which had previously been collected, was thrown into the river, except for a few

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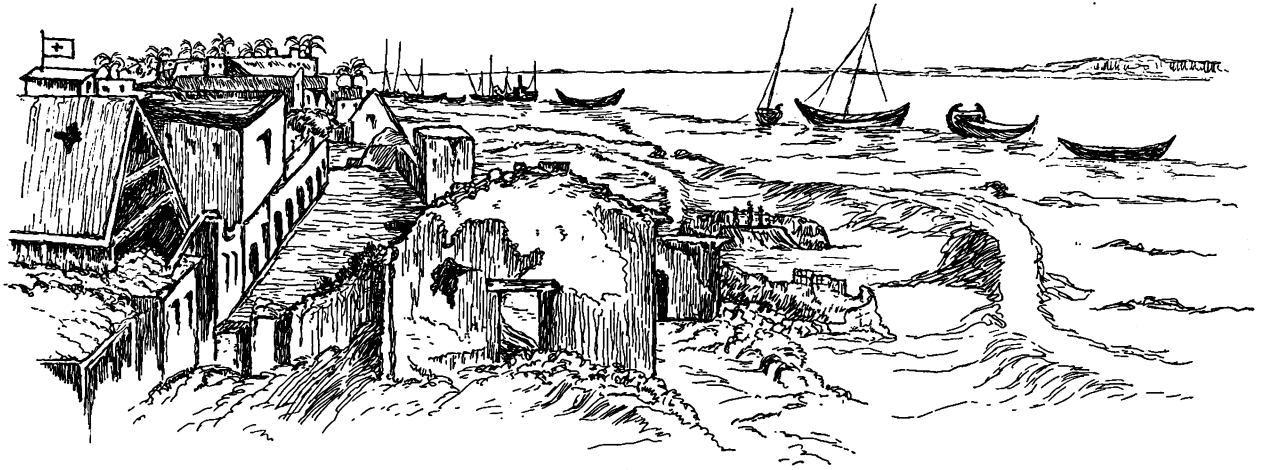

View of Kut at End of the Siege.

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rounds per gun and rifle. We, in the fort, spent all night throwing away ammunition, commencing at 1 a.m., and continuing till 3.30 a.m. (29th). There was one bad accident during this : two natives of the 67th Punjabis, were carrying bombs through the Fort to the river and they exploded. Whether this was due to the heat effect on the explosives, or whether some bombs were dropped and in going off detonated the others is not known, as both men were so badly injured that they died within ten minutes and without regaining consciousness. Captain Ivey, who was left in charge of the regimental stores in the " Middle Line," three-quarters of a mile back, destroyed everything he could.

April 29, 1916.

Early in the morning we started smashing bayonets. (This was done with a pickaxe, the bayonet being driven into the ground about half way, and the handle rested against a log of wood, the pick was then used on the " fort," when the bayonet broke at once.) Entrenching tools and anything that might be of use, also revolvers and field-glasses, were also destroyed.

At about 11 a.m., the Turks came round us. White flags were hoisted on the walls of the Fort and the Turks piled arms and sat down round the outside. There was no disorder and no looting by the Turks, in fact their discipline on this occasion was very good, only one or two officers and a few orderlies entered. The same could not be said of those in Kut town. There, I heard, they ran loose all over the place and looted ; the same with the " Middle Line," the looters in this case being irregular semi-Arab Cavalry.

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We collected our things and marched by companies into the Inner Keep of the Fort, and there piled arms and deposited what ammunition we had kept (anything between 150-200 rounds per man), for the Turks to take over, and then sat down and waited, the men keeping their belts, haversacks and waterbottles. We waited all day for orders which we got about 5 p.m.; at 5.30 p.m. we marched out of the Fort, carrying all our kit with us, there being no transport. We were ordered to march across to the banks of the Tigris, to a "bagh," half-mile N. of Kut town. By doing this our chances of getting to the middle line, which we had used all the time as a depot for surplus clothing, was nil, and so instead of being able to accumulate some of our more useful things, we had to leave them just as they were, for the Turks. On reaching the Bagh, at about 8 p.m., we found the rest of the Brigade already bivouacked there. We had some dinner, such as it was, and went to bed. During the night there were Turks wandering about waiting for any chance of looting any soldier who strayed beyond the camp limits; what they wanted was money belts. Mundey, who had been with the Flying Corps throughout the siege, rejoined us here.

April 30, 1916. *Kut to Shumran Camp* (9 *miles*).

In the morning, the 30th and 18th Brigade and divisional troops went off by river steamer up to the Turkish camp on the banks of the Tigris at Shumran (9 miles N.). We (the 17th Brigade) and the 16th Brigade were told we would march in the afternoon as there were no boats available for us. Our baggage was taken on by the others and Captain Mundey went

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up on the steamer as baggage guard (Heywood, who was sick, went with Mundey). We marched out at 3.30 p.m. The first part of the journey was very slow, as we had to go for about two-and-a-half miles along the footpath on the bank, in single file; we reached the camp at 7 p.m. and lay down for the night just as we were, and being really tired, slept as soundly as if we had been in bed, at least I think most of us did.

All this time we had had no food given to us by the Turks, and had to live on our emergency siege ration, supplemented by a few luxuries which we had got out of the parcels which we had been keeping and which we opened to prevent the Turks getting them.

May 1, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Early in the morning we commenced sorting out our kits, which had been put out on the bank the night before guarded by Mundey and his company. As each unit scrambled for their kit as they liked, there was a confused muddle round it, and a good many things were lost. We, however, got nearly everything, losing only one or two of the men's kit and rather important, our Mess yakdan in which were all cups, plates, knives, and forks, etc.

May 2 *and* 3, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Remained in Shumran Camp awaiting events. In the afternoon of the 3rd, General Townsend with Colonel Parr and Captain Morland, passed up on a launch, and were heartily cheered. Morland told us then of the deaths of Hammick and Foljambe, who were with the relieving force under General Gorringe.

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May 5, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Loafed in camp all day, but in the evening we received orders that 100 British officers, Head Quarters of Brigade, Sappers and Miners and 48th Pioneers and Divisional troops, 4 Indian officers per Regiment and servants, were to be ready to embark for Baghdad that night. This party for the future will be quoted as "Echelon A"; those remaining as "Echelon B." Echelon A numbered 375:—Officers 88, Indian Officers 60, Orderlies, British and Indian, 227. Essad Bey, Commandant. General Delamaine in Command. (General Melliss was also on board, but on the sick list.) Each regiment leaving was to leave one officer to take charge of the men, until they marched. Of the regiment:—Colonel Lethbridge, Captain Mundey, Lieut. Mason, Lieut. Naylor, Captain Startin, R.A.M.C., and Captain Ivey, Lieuts. Mellor, Somerset and Lieut. Heyward, 2/4th Wilts. (attached) marched, Major Henley being left in charge of the regiment.

May 5, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Those in Shumran Camp, Echelon B, received orders to separate British officers and Indian officers from the men, and for the men to hold themselves ready to march in the afternoon. These orders were cancelled later.

May 6, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

About breakfast time we were told that a large barge containing private regimental stores[1] was expected. These stores began to arrive about 10 a.m., and continued all the morning, the Turks doing the carrying

[1]These stores were, I believe, those off the *Julna*, commanded by Captain Cowley (of Lynch Bros.), who tried to run the blockade on April 26, but failed, he being captured and eventually murdered by the Turks.

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into camp, we doing all carrying within the camp; I left two sergeants to watch for anything belonging to the regiment, but nothing turned up for us; just as well perhaps, as we should probably have had to throw a good deal away for lack of transport; as it was the Norfolk Regiment who got a large consignment of coffee shop stores handed over about 1,000 rupees worth to us, which gave the men ample of such things as butter, milk, biscuits, cake, plum pudding, and several odd luxuries, but no tobacco unfortunately. There was only just time to issue this before the men had to march; in fact they were still stowing things away while on parade. This food was the saving of the men, as the ration they received from the Turks was a thing it takes several days to get accustomed to, if then, and most of the men were weakened from the effects of the siege; it also put heart into them, and they marched off quite cheerful.

At 2 p.m., the men marched out of camp under the command of Acting Sergeant-Major Love, and formed up on the Bagdad Road. Here they waited 1½ hours and marched off on their journey to Bagdad at 3.30 p.m.

The strength of the men of the Battalion on marching out was :—Sergeant-Major Love in command.

"P" Company	61	
"Q" Company	58	
"R" Company	67	Native Followers 25.
"S" Company	66	
	253	

No. 8520 Pte. Standage, 43rd; No. 2862 Pte. Froome, 2/4 Wilts., who died on the 5th, were buried to-day (May 6, 1916).

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In the afternoon, the officers moved down to the south end of the camp, where they were all together taking just sufficient tents to carry on with, leaving the remainder standing on the old ground for the Turks to take their pickings. Our new quarters right on the edge of the water should have been very nice, but the ground was so absolutely filthy from the absence of any sanitary arrangements, that it was hardly bearable. We cleaned the place as well as we could, but even then it was very bad.

May 7, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Remained in camp waiting events and "wolfing" the good things that had so unexpectedly arrived. By this time all regiments had opened up the contents of their various stores (of 6th inst.), and the whole camp was overflowing with food and drink. We thought of the others who had gone on ahead with "Echelon A," they had gone off before anything had come into camp and were, of course, very short.

No fresh orders were received other than a message from the Turkish Commandant to say that he was very disgusted to see some officers destroying and throwing into the river some of their property, which he had ordered to be handed over to him. These were such things as cameras, thermos flasks, compasses, camp chairs, and tables.

The undermentioned were buried to-day:—Ptes. Luckett, Rattledge, Higgins, No. 9579 Pte. Tott, 43rd, who died during the night 6th-7th.

May 8, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Waited in camp expecting to see a boat coming

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down stream to take us up to Bagdad, but none came and nothing happened during the day.

Ptes. No. 8934 Howes and 9377 Paske, 43rd Light Infantry, who died on the evening of the 7th, and No. 9321 Pte. Wavel, 43rd, who died this morning, were buried to-day.

May 9, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

Again waited all day expecting orders. These eventually came late in the evening, a boat having arrived in the early evening to fetch us. We were ordered to send one officer per unit to see the allotment of places at 5.30 a.m. to-morrow after which we were to embark as quickly as possible. We were told no boxes were to be taken—this was probably a hit at our mess stores.

Ptes. No. 9136 Hopgood, 2/4th Wilts.; No. 9457 Harris and 9466 Ecclestone, 43rd Infantry, were buried to-day.

May 10, 1916. *Shumran Camp.*

At 5.30 a.m., we sent one officer per regiment on board to see the places allotted to us. This was soon done, and we all embarked on the river steamer *Burhanieh* (Turkish), carrying as much stuff with us as we could, in spite of the Turks asking us not to take boxes. We managed to get a good many on board and most of those that were stopped we managed to empty of their contents; what the Turks got from other messes I don't know, but I don't think they got a single thing from us.

At 7 a.m., we started, leaving the Field Ambulance and sick behind in camp; also those men who had been previously picked out by the Turkish Medical

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Officer as unfit to march. Those of the regiment were :—Nos. 8493 Sgt. Thompson, "P" Company; 9204 Cpl. Lambert, "R" Company; 9673 Pte. Merritt, "S" Company; 8810 Pte. Oakes, "S" Company; 9448 Pte. Risby, "R" Company; 9725 Pte. Haynes "R" Company; 9094 Pte. Waller, "R" Company; and Pte. Spiers, "P" Company.

We numbered on the boat about 90 British and 50 Indian officers, Colonel Brown, 103rd Mahratta Light Infantry being in command.

Our servants were with us, the Indians being in a barge on one side and the British orderlies in a Mahela on the other. We were all very crowded on board, when our beds were down each one was overlapping the other all round the ship and it was impossible to walk anywhere without treading on someone.

May 11, 1916.

Settling down a bit, but still very crowded and uncomfortable. There were some German and Turkish officers both army and navy on board, who were nearly as crowded as we were. The Germans were very friendly and talked freely with those of us who could speak French. One of these was a good artist and made in a day an excellent water colour painting of one of the Subardar Majors on board who was rather a fine picturesque-looking old man. They also invited some of the Ghurka officers to dinner. One of the worst things we had to contend with were the sanitary arrangements which were positively awful and remained so throughout the voyage.

About midday we overtook the river steamer *Julna* with some of those who had been left behind at

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Kut on board. We were only able to exchange greetings across the water as we passed. She looked very different to when we saw her last, having been entirely stripped of all surplus woodwork. The whole of the aft cabins had gone; presumably this was done to make as much space for stores as possible at the time Captain Cowley of Lynch Bros. made the plucky attempt to run the blockade on the night of April 25-26 to bring us food. Had he been successful, there is not much doubt but what we should have been relieved, when this story would not have been written.

May 12, 1916.

Nothing happened to interest us till the evening when we stopped for an hour at Sulamein Pâk, just near the arch of Ctesiphon; we had an excellent view of the arch from the steamer and hoped to be able to go up to it and inspect it, but were not allowed. The only people that went were two of the S. and T. Corps (Sanders was one), who had persuaded two German officers to take them there. As far as we could see the arch, which is very thick, is made of brick, and once formed part of a large hall. Now all the remainder of the building had disappeared leaving only the arch standing; it is about 100 feet high and can be seen for miles. It was quite clear to those of the regiment who had time to look at it at the time of the battle and they were quite 1½ miles away.

Of the Sacred City of Sulamein Pâk, which is about 500 yards N. of the arch, you cannot see much from the river except the dome of the temple, which is a low squat thing and only just shows above the city

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walls on account of the trees that have grown up. Beyond being very sacred to the Turk, I don't think there is much of interest attached to it.

May 13, 1916. *Bagdad. Cavalry Barracks.*

At about 10 a.m. we reached the beginning of Bagdad, which as we went on seemed to be a long straggling town along the banks of the river, the principal buildings being on the left bank. I think what one noticed most was the number of hospitals which were made conspicuous by the number of occupants all dressed in long gowns of the Turkish colours of red and white.

We tied up near these and got out and were then arranged in the ranks in order of seniority and marched all through the bazaar to the Turkish cavalry barracks, which were in an isolated position about 1½ miles upstream. While marching through the bazaar we noticed a very pretty minaret, covered entirely with turquoise blue mosaic. This was quite the most effective any of us had seen in the country; this minaret, like all others in Mesopotamia, was "leaning"—presumably they are built to lean towards Mecca. Another very noticeable thing in Bagdad, was the orderliness of the crowd. There was no hustling to see us and no shouting or jeering the whole way. Most of the bazaar was covered in and built after the style of Gothic architecture.

At about 1 p.m. we reached the barracks, which Echelon A had left three days before. We found them filthy, but had to make the best of it. A contractor had been installed who was supposed to feed us, but after the first meal we decided to run our own

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meals, which we were able to do by purchasing things from the Arab hawkers round the gateway, which was expensive, as we had to pay a Mejidiel a day for food which we couldn't face. It was here that we first struck the horrible Turkish habit of having only one knife, fork, and spoon for all courses of a meal, which have to be used without being washed in between.

May 14 *and* 15, 1916.

Remained in barracks; we were allowed out in the bazaar in batches. Again no one in the streets attempted to interfere with us in any way.

May 16, 1916.

We got our orders to be ready to march to the railway station. We spent the morning sorting our kit, dividing up mess stores which we had to carry in our kits (our allowance of luggage again being cut down), and selling what surplus stuff we had to any Turk who was willing to buy. As a matter of fact they all wanted to buy our wine and gave a very fair price for it; all we had in our Mess for sale was Vermouth, for which they gave 2 lires a case of a dozen.

We left barracks at 4.30, marched about one mile to the station where we had to wait about for some time, eventually leaving about 6.30 p.m. Colonels and Majors travelling 1st Class, Captains and Subs., 3rd.

On passing the northern outskirts of Bagdad, we noticed a very fine Mosque, consisting of a large central dome with four smaller ones round it, all enclosed by a high brick wall; the tops of all the domes were covered in gold and with the setting sun shining on them looked very pretty.

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Samarra.

After a train journey of five hours, we reached Samarra, another very ancient and historical town, and the terminus of the railway from Bagdad northwards. Having detrained, we marched a mile or more to the Serai (local name for resting place), which here consisted of four walls with a very light brushwood roof, leaving our servants at the station to look after our baggage.

In the Serai we found Lieut. Mellor (attached) and L.-Cpl. Young, who had been left behind sick by Echelon A, rolled up on the ground in bed. Our luggage, which was brought from the station on two small trolleys over a light railway, took all night coming, some of us not getting our things till daylight.

May 17 *and* 18, 1916. *Samarra.*

Remained in the Serai, where we made ourselves fairly comfortable in spite of intense heat and innumerable flies; we were on the outskirts of the town and half-mile from the river Tigris, where we were allowed to go to bathe and wash. This was the only direction we were allowed to go in and took us away from the town.

May 19, 1916. *Samarra.*

Passed the time in the Serai as best we could, swearing at the heat and flies, until we got the luxury of a bathe in the evening. In the afternoon, Pte. Burke, of the regiment, who had come into the town to draw rations for the men who had arrived in the morning, managed to evade the guard and came into the Serai to see us. He said that the men had got on

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all right and for the most part were very fit; they had halted for two days at Bagailah, 15 miles out. Three men:—Sgt. Barfoot, "S" Company, Pte. Carter, "R" Company (cook) and one other had died within the first three days of the start from Shumran Camp. He said that the Turks used all the persuasion they could to get the men along, and were not very gentle over it, but that if a man was really done, they mounted him on a camel or pony as they had promised to do. If the other men looked as fit as Pte. Burke, there was certainly no question as to their having suffered from their march.

We heard after that many men suffered severely at the hands of Turks, many of whom were helped and possibly their lives saved by the energies of General Sir C. Mellis, V.C., who was held in high esteem by Turks, and made the most of it, even posed to Turks as "His Excellency," which title they accepted.

[*Editor's Note.*—At this stage the Turks had not wilfully begun to treat our soldiers badly. It was in the subsequent march into Asia Minor that they were treated in such a way that only about 70 survived out of 300.]—C.H.

May 20, 1916.

We received our orders to be ready to start on our march to Mosul in the afternoon. We were to have one donkey or mule each, so we immediately started sorting our kit again discarding beds, baths, etc., and boxes, to bring our load to 100 lb. per animal. As it happened we need not have been so particular, as we found these tiny little donkeys carrying quite 200 lb. if not more. At 5.30 p.m. we were ready and

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tried to start, but were stopped by a dust storm, which was so absolutely thick there was no question of us moving had the animals been willing, which they were not—they wouldn't budge. At last, about 6 p.m., we got off. Mellor, who had now recovered, coming along with us but not L.-Cpl. Young, who had to be sent into hospital. At about 11 p.m., we were caught in a "Shamale" (a squall), which again stopped us for half an hour, and all those who had not kept out waterproofs were drenched. We went on again, eventually halting beside some very brackish water at 2 a.m.

We left three or four officers behind at Samarra sick, including Colonel Cumings, 24th Punjabs.

May 21, 1916. *Takrit.*

Roused at 4 a.m., we again started off at 4.30 a.m., reaching Takrit at about noon, where we bivouacked in the bed of the river on shingle, not comfortable but cleaner than anywhere else. We were given the use of a large café facing the river, but most of us found it too hot and stuffy and also a bit lively!

Takrit is a large village, but from the little one was allowed to see of it, it seemed to have no large houses. The country all round was very barren and ugly, with a few low hills, all covered with shale, which made it abominable walking.

May 22, 1916. *Takrit.*

Remained at Takrit. Slept half the day and for the rest made purchases for our next stage as supplies were plentiful here, at a price. We also got mussoks, as we were told we should be 30 miles without having good water.

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May 23, 1916.

Left Takrit at 5 p.m. with a good many additional animals, which we had been able to hire for 2 liros each to go as far as Mosul. This gave us a donkey each for riding and half a donkey for kit. We marched till 1 a.m., and then halted by the roadside for the remainder of the night. Very hot all day and bad going in the beginning, the soil being shale again. However, this improved later in the day. We left three more sick officers here. No water.

May 24, 1916.

Moved on again at 4.30 a.m., marching till 9 a.m., when we halted for the day near some brackish water. We were able to purchase a few eggs, milk, etc., from some Bedouin Arabs camped near by. At 5 p.m., we moved on again. This was the beginning of a long march of about 40 miles without water, and we were to get over it as quickly as possible. We halted for the night at 2 a.m.

May 25, 1916.

Marched again at 4 p.m. and halted at 9 a.m. by some brackish water with which we cooked our meal and tried to wash, both being rather a failure as there was a very bitter taste in all the food and the soap wouldn't lather.

The country now was improving from a shale country (something like the Deccan in India, rank grass and desert plants growing amongst loose stones). We were coming on to a sandy soil, the grass was higher and there were more flowers, such as hollyhocks, poppies, all with prickly leaves; and in the rear view small dome-shaped hills with large angular

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hills in the distance. The country was now very like the Orange River Colony in South Africa, especially the centre, if you imagined the dome shaped hills of the desert taking the place of the conical-shaped " kopje " of South Africa. The hills seemed to be of gypsum.

Shergat.

At 2 p.m. we started again, hoping to reach Shergat in the evening. We arrived at Shergat at about 10 p.m., and halted for the night in a Serai on the banks of the river. Had some food and went to bed. This completed our first 100 miles. Here also we got good water again.

May 26, 1916.

We were roused at 5 a.m. and told we were to move from our present Serai to an old Serai about 200 yards away perched on a very steep hill and amongst the ruins of the old town which at the present time is being excavated, presumably by Germans. This town is supposed to be an old Syrian fortress, and according to the appearance of some of the standing walls, it bears evidence of being an ancient town. We remained in our new quarters all day and rested. Had great difficulty in getting supplies as the Turkish guard stopped the Arabs selling direct to us, and only allowed a few to sell, from whom of course they took " bacsheesh," and our prices went up accordingly.

May 27, 1916.

Started at 7 a.m. and marched till 1 p.m. On leaving we had a good view of an old Syrian Fort, perched on top of one of the hills on the opposite side of the river (N.E.) and which stood out as a landmark

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for miles round. There were several other smaller forts on the neighbouring hills, which pointed to it being an ancient fortified village, whether inhabited to-day or in ruins one couldn't tell—it was too far off—but I think it is inhabited now.

After a halt of about five hours, we started again at 6 p.m., and marched till midnight and laid down on the side of the road for the night.

May 28, 1916.

Started again at 5 a.m. for Giara. At 9 a.m. we halted for five hours, moving on again at 2 p.m., reaching Giara at about 7 p.m., where we halted for the night.

May 29, 1916.

Moved at 5.30 a.m. and marched till 10 a.m. Halted till 2 p.m. and then on again, finally halting at 9 p.m. at Haman Ali (Nimrud), where we halted for the night. This had been a long march, about 25 miles, during the last 24 hours, and very hot and dusty, travelling all through the heat of the day as we had done. To-morrow we get into Mosul and complete the first stage of our journey (Samarra—Mosul, 180 miles).

May 30, 1916. *Mosul.*

Started at 4 a.m. for Mosul. This was to be a short march of about five hours. When within about eight miles of Mosul, we came to the edge of the plateau on which we had been travelling and there was Mosul lying in the open plain below us. We marched into Mosul at 9.30 a.m., passing through the town to one of the Turkish Barracks (a Government Serai it might have been), where we had our names called, were given rooms (6 to a room) and left in peace to

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unpack and get some food and a wash. Afterwards we were allowed to go out to some small cafés near by to get our food, horrid little places more like a fried-fish shop than anything else, but the food was not bad. Everything was cooked in oil; they gave us country wine, compared to which vinegar is nectar.

Mosul is a town of some 60,000 inhabitants, and contains some very good solid buildings made of local stone.

May 31, 1916.

Remained at Mosul, trying to make the best of our quarters which were filthy, though perhaps not quite so bad as the barracks we were in at Bagdad. As may be imagined, we were troubled with a good many "uninvited guests" as had been the case at all houses we had been in.

June 1, 1916.

Remained at Mosul waiting for transport which was expected at any time; we were allowed into the Bazaar to make purchases for our next journey. Lieut. Spackman, I.M.S., who had been left in charge of the sick of Echelon A, came in to see us. He told us that Cpl. Reid of the regiment was dangerously ill and off his head (sunstroke). Major Barker, R.E., who had been left behind sick, joined us here.

June 2, 1916.

We were told to be ready to move in the evening, but nothing turned up and so we had another night in Mosul, but we were told that all the transport would be ready in the morning for certain, and on that we got our things together, and laid in a further supply of food.

(*To be continued.*)

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SURVIVORS OF DEFENCE OF KUT-AL-AMARA SERVING WITH THE 43RD LIGHT INFANTRY APRIL 29TH, 1926
(ABSENT—SGT. SWIFT, D.C.M.)

Sgt.-Blr. H. Kennard Pte. R. Sadler Sgt. S. Thompson Pte. C. Haynes Sgt. F. G. Ponting
Captain A. E. Mason.

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EXTRACT FROM A LETTER

WRITTEN BY LIEUT.-COLONEL A. C. MONEY TO HIS MOTHER WHEN ON BOARD H.M.S. "JUMNA," BOUND FOR CANNANORE WITH THE 43RD.

H.M.S. *Jumna.*

October 13, 1872.

WE got in to Malta about half-past six last Wednesday morning. As we passed Fort St. Elmo on the right, as we entered—we found all the 52nd upon the ramparts, ready to greet us, which they did, most heartily, and to which we replied—they also had their Band up, to play us in. It was given out at first that we should sail at 6 that evening, at which we were much disappointed, as we wanted to dine with the 52nd (of course we got our invite as soon as we got in) and go to the opera afterwards. But, on the Chief Engineer reporting to the Captain that the engines required rest, and also that there were a few things to be done that could not be done at sea—he altered his mind and resolved not to go to sea till the next morning at daylight.

Of course, as soon as we got in we were surrounded by the natives in boats of all sorts and sizes, and the usual diving commenced. We got one fellow to go under the ship for a shilling. We went ashore after breakfast and I think all proceeded to the Post Office first, and then the fellows I went with and myself went up to the 52nd. Evelyn Pocklington

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was at Pembroke Camp—but he came in in the afternoon. We were all over the place all day, in twos and threes, each party having a 52nd fellow to show us the lions. Some fellows went out to Civita Vecchia, but I did not—I saw the Palace, and St. John's Church, which is the most beautiful one I ever saw anywhere... Before we got in we were wondering whether our sergeants would be allowed to go ashore, as they all wanted to go and see the 52nd—but on our arrival we found it had all been settled, and the 52nd—after great difficulty had got leave for them, so they all went, and enjoyed themselves immensely—moreover none of them got into trouble and they were all back on board before 12 midnight, up to which time they had leave. After dinner we all went to the Opera, *The Barber of Seville* was the piece played, and everyone said we were very lucky to be there that night, as it was the best played opera they had seen. After the opera we went back to the 52nd for supper, and got back to the ship about 2 a.m., having thoroughly enjoyed our visit. We sailed at 6 a.m., the 52nd Band was upon the ramparts again, playing *Auld Lang Syne* and after exchanging cheers, etc., etc., we soon found ourselves at sea again, and much to everyone's disgust, in a very heavy swell, which made the ship pitch rather heavily, and accordingly upset a good many of us for a time. I was all right, after a good sleep, which I got after parade, but a good many were very sick all day, and not right till the following morning. . . . We left Miller at Malta with the 52nd, so he will be well taken care of, they seem to be a very nice Regiment and the men are so smart and clean.

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October 13.

We arrived at Port Said yesterday, about one o'clock p.m., and soon after went ashore. We found it was a much better sort of place than we expected, some very fair shops, and a very fair hotel (French) where a lot of us dined. There was not anything in particular to see and after strolling all about the place and riding on donkeys over to the Arab town about half a mile away, we had seen everything there was to see. I never saw a greater collection of ruffians than there were there. . . . I don't think I shall be going on Detachment as there are only two Companies going, instead of three as we thought. . .

A. C. M. (late 43rd).

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THE MENIN GATE MEMORIAL

"THE HALL OF MEMORY," YPRES, BELGIUM

ERECTED by the Nation as a tribute to the Armies of the British Empire who fought in the Great War, 1914-1918, and more especially to those officers and men who fell in the defence of the Ypres Salient and have no known graves. A photograph of this memorial appears on page 205.

The names of soldiers from the United Kingdom who fell in the Ypres Salient prior to August 16, 1917, and those of the Dominions who fell in Belgium during the war (excluding New Zealand personnel, who are commemorated at Tyne Cot, Passchendaele), and for whom no known graves exist are engraved on the memorial in units and in alphabetical order. Approximately 56,000 names are recorded, 41,500 of them being personnel from the United Kingdom and 14,500 from the Dominions and India. Naturally a very large wall space was required for these thousands, and the lists have been cut in 1,166 Portland stone panels, the units and rank being in gold lettering and the names in black.

The "Hall of Memory" was opened by Field-Marshal Lord Plumer, G.C.B., on July 24, 1927, and a summary of the names of the officers and men of the Regiment inscribed on panels 37 and 39 is given below.

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THE MENIN GATE, JULY 24TH, 1927.

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Summary of Names of all Ranks Inscribed on the Menin Gate Memorial of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

Battalion	Capts.	Sub-alterns	WO's Cl. 1	Sgts.	Cpls.	L/Cpls.	Pts.	Total
2nd Battn. ..	1	4		7	2	8	91	113
1/4th		1		1	1	3	9	15
1/1st (Bucks Bn.)					1		5	6
2/1st do.							1	1
5th (Service Bn.)	1	5	1	18	12	42	219	298
6th do.						2	14	16
	2	10	1	26	16	55	339	449

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OCCASIONAL NOTES

Birthday Honours List.—Air-Vice-Marshal H. R. M. Brooke-Popham, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.F.C., to be K.C.B.

Colonel J. F. C. Fuller, C.B.E., D.S.O. was appointed G.S.O.I. 2nd Division Aldershot from May 1st.

Colonel L. H. R. Pope-Hennessy, D.S.O., was appointed British Military Attaché at Washington, U.S.A., from June, 1927.

Marriage.

On November 29, 1927, at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, London, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pollock, D.S.O., late Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry to Freda Doyle, of Walcote, Leamington Spa, widow of the late William Gleaves Doyle.

Extract from "The Times" of 1827

Thursday, November 22, 1827. Price 7d.

Brighton, Tuesday, November 20.—The gay circle at Almack's were not a little scandalized at the ball last week by the appearance of no less than four officers of the 52d. wearing *their swords*, and actually dancing with them. How they contrived to get through the mazes of the quadrille without coming in contact with their fair partners, remains a mystery; but their exalted brethren of the cavalry regiment stationed here (the 7th Hussars) have indulged in many a jest at their expense.

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Extract from "Light and Shade in Bygone India," by Lieut.-Colonel Thornton.

Page 19.—"Life in India must have been very tedious for the rank and file of British regiments, for recreations were very few. Conditions no doubt varied in different units, in proportion to the interest taken by officers in the matter. The 36th and 52nd led very active outdoor lives, cricket, quoits, and 'long bullets' being regularly played. The results were excellent, for when these two famous corps were reviewed about 1788 at Madras, the two regiments between them had only twenty-one men on the sick-list out of a combined strength of one thousand six hundred men. The 36th and 52nd can, however, have had few imitators, for as late as 1827 it was extremely rare to find a British soldier with ten years' Indian service, so long was it before the preservation of the health of the European man-at-arms in the East was generally understood."

20th Light Infantry Division

Belgian Homage at Unveiling of British Memorial

Brussels, June 5.

The memorial to fallen soldiers of the 20th British Light Infantry Division was unveiled to-day at Langemarck. Forty officers and men who had served in the Division were present under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Story. Major-General Douglas Smith unveiled the memorial and Major-General de Callatay, of the Belgian Army, paid homage to the dead.

Trumpeters of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry sounded the "Last Post," and the

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band of the 4th Belgian Regiment of the Line played "God Save the King" and the "Brabançonne."

Among those attending were Colonels Troyte-Bullock, Piggott, Stratton, and Boyle.

In October, 1927, there disappeared from the Depot one of its oldest inhabitants, in fact the second oldest, namely, Simon, the Sealyham terrier, who for the last few years has been looked after by Captain Roberts.

Simon was born in the autumn of 1913 and arrived at the Depot with his master, Major (now Lieut.-Colonel) W. Owen, on August 7, 1914. On the latter's departure in March, 1916, Simon was taken on by Lieut.-Colonel Sir Charles Cuyler, who commanded the Depot throughout the whole war and who, in turn, handed him over to his successor, Major W. E. T. Morland. After passing through several hands he eventually became, in 1920, Captain Roberts's personal attendant.

One's chief impression of Simon was his unfeigned dislike of all the canine usurpers of his kingdom who appeared at the Depot from time to time after 1919; he regarded each with the fiercest jealousy, and never missed an opportunity of letting them know that he, at any rate, intended or wished to remain king of the local canine world. His fights were legion, his victories not so many, but he never lost his antipathy for new arrivals nor an occasion for trying conclusions with them.

Whether in the ante-room or the orderly-room Simon soon learnt to recognize the second dinner horn and the second mess horn and would immediately make for the door to lead the way into the dining-room.

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OBITUARY

MAJOR JOHN DAVY WRIGHT DAVY died at King's Lynn on January 24, 1927, aged 61. He joined the Regiment as Lieutenant on August 29, 1885, being promoted Captain January 2, 1893, and Major, October 23, 1903.

He retired on retired pay April 20, 1907. Rejoining at the outbreak of the Great War, he served as Company Commander in the 6th Battalion for some time both in England and France.

Major Davy was a very useful bat and played many good innings both for the 43rd and 52nd. He was a keen shikari and a really good shot with a gun, getting much shooting in India and in his native county of Norfolk, of which he was a J.P.

COLONEL SIR ST. VINCENT ALEXANDER HAMMICK, 3rd Bart., died at his residence at Torquay on November 8, 1927, at the age of 88. He was gazetted to the 43rd as Ensign in March, 1861, at the age of 22. An old officer writes: "When I joined the Depot at Chatham in July, '61, Hammick had been there about ten months and the first I saw of him was coming off Recruits' drill in a private's shell jacket (the undress of the period) which we used to wear at these drills."

He was promoted Lieutenant in May, 1863. He served with the 43rd throughout the New Zealand War, receiving the Medal, and was mentioned in despatches as "having performed his duty as Acting-Adjutant with great coolness and courage under a heavy

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fire" in the action at Te Ranga on June 21, 1864.

Adjutant from 1865-1870, he was promoted Captain February 26, 1870, and Major, July 1, 1881.

Having "passed the Staff College," he was employed on the Staff in India, chiefly as Garrison Instructor, between 1874 and 1884.

Subsequently he was with the 43rd at Shorncliffe and Parkhurst, but having reached the age limit for command before his turn came, he went on half-pay as Lieut.-Colonel on June 6, 1888. He had already been promoted Brevet-Colonel, July 21, 1887.

From 1888-1896 he served on the staff in Egypt, becoming substantive Colonel in 1891. On April 10, 1896, after 35 years' service, he retired from the Army.

He succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his father, the Revd. Sir St. V. L. Hammick, in 1888, and was twice married.

The death of his son, Stephen, who served in the 43rd, 1894-1909, and was killed in Mesopotamia in 1916, was a great grief to him.

Sir St. Vincent was one of the best all-round officers who have ever served in the regiment. A most regular attendant previous to 1914 at the annual Regimental Dinner, he was at the time of his death the senior surviving officer of the 43rd.

The following additional notice, giving details of Sir St. Vincent's career before joining the 43rd is reprinted from *The Times*.

"Colonel Sir St. Vincent Hammick, Bt., died at his residence at Torquay on Tuesday night at the age of 88.

"The eldest son of the Rev. Sir St. Vincent Hammick, second baronet, and brother of Sir Murray Hammick, formerly Governor of Madras, he was

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born on April 10, 1839. He went to Harrow in 1852, being at first in a Small House and later in Mr. Oxenham's (Moreton's), was made a monitor, and left in 1857 for Balliol College, Oxford. He rowed No. 2 in the college eight in 1858, when it went head of the river. At Henley, in the same year, he rowed again in his college crew, which won the Ladies' Plate. In 1859 he rowed for his college, head of the river, and also at Henley, in defence of the Ladies' Plate, but on this occasion it had to yield to First Trinity, Cambridge, in the final heat. In the University Fours Hammick was to be seen at bow for his college in company with 'Blues' such as George Morrison and G. G. T. Treherne (then Thomas). Hammick was not a heavyweight—his heaviest Henley scaling was but 10 st. 8 lb., but he was a particularly neat oar, with a faultlessly straight back and clean shoulder finish. He was tried for the Oxford crew of 1859, but as a candidate for bow he was finally outbid by the more powerful Henry Fleming Baxter, of Brasenose. In those days the practice had not obtained of training a ninth man in case of accidents or of temporary ailments, otherwise there is little doubt that Hammick would have been the ninth man; he was ambidextrous in a boat, just as handy on bow side as on stroke side—an all-important endowment for a reserve man. Too many good oarsmen get 'grooved,' so to speak, to one side of the boat, and are, maybe, a stone weight less valuable if shifted to the other side. Such watermanship is more usually found in oarsmen from rowing schools; but Hammick, starting as a 'dry bob' *ex officio* as from Harrow, mastered both sides of the ship early in his career.

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"After taking his degree with honours in classics and mathematics Hammick joined the 43rd Oxfordshire Light Infantry, and served in the operations in New Zealand in 1863-66, being mentioned in despatches. In 1888 he succeeded as third baronet. He was A.A.G. in Egypt in 1891-1896, when he retired as colonel. He married first in 1869 Penelope, daughter of Mr. C. W. Beauclerk, of Winchfield House, Hants; she died in 1886, leaving, with two daughters, a son, Captain S. F. Hammick, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, who died of wounds in April, 1916. Sir St. Vincent married secondly in 1890 Elinor, daughter of the Rev. Sir Gilbert Frankland Lewis, Bt. The baronetcy now passes to his nephew, George Frederick Hammick, late R.N., temporary lieutenant, R.N.V.R., who was born in 1885."

RONALD MACKENZIE LOGAN, the elder son of the late Col. Logan of Postford House, Chilworth, died in a nursing home on March 12, 1927.

He joined the 43rd from the Militia as 2nd Lieutenant in February, 1900, and served with them during the S. African War for which he received the Queen's Medal with 2 clasps. He was promoted Lieutenant, August 1902, and resigned his commission on August 24, 1904. At the outbreak of the Great War he rejoined, being posted to the 7th Battalion as Captain, subsequently promoted Major, but resigned in July, 1915.

LIEUT.-COLONEL ROBERT EDWARD SALKELD, eldest son of the late Colonel Salkeld, F.R.G.S., of Stour House, Blandford, Dorset, died at his residence on the 30th January, 1927, aged 53. He joined the 52nd (from the

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Militia), as a 2nd Lieut. on the 12th December, 1894, being promoted Lieut., 12th December, 1897, and Captain, 11th January, 1901.

During this period he served with the Regiment in the Tirah campaign, receiving the medal with two clasps. From 1901-1906 he was seconded for service with the King's African Rifles in Jubaland, resigning his commission in the Regiment on the 11th July, 1906, in order to take up civil employment in the Colonial Office.

An interesting account of his experience during the above period will be found in Vol. XII of the Chronicle. He was, in succession, in the East African Protectorate, now Kenya Colony, Collector, January, 1906-March 1912, District Commissioner, April, 1912-March, 1920 and Administrative Officer, 1st grade, April, 1920-December, 1923.

From February-August, 1911, he acted as H.M.'s Commissioner, Somaliland Protectorate. In addition, from July, 1906, until the end of the Great War he held a commission in the 3rd Battn., being seconded (from Civil employ) for duty under the War Office from January, 1915, until May, 1919. During the war (1915) Lieut.-Colonel Salkeld held the appointments of D.A. and Q.M.G., and in 1916 was made temporary Lieut. Colonel commanding a battalion. He held the Order of the Star of Roumania, 5th Class.

CAPTAIN JAMES GUISE died at Coventry on the 26th July, 1927, aged 62.

"Young" Guise, as he was generally known, served in the Regiment for 22 years and 9 months. He rose to the rank of Colour-Sergeant before he was

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posted to the Bucks Volunteers as a Sergeant-Instructor on the permanent staff.

At the outbreak of the Great War he rejoined the Regiment, and was Regtl. Sergeant Major at the Depot until February, 1915. He was then given a commission as Captain in the 7th (Service) Battn., at that time being trained in Oxford.

With them he served in France and Salonika until the cessation of hostilities. During the greater part of 1919 he was employed at Havre with the Chinese Labour Corps. He was eventually demobilized in November, 1919, with a total army service of 28 years.

An excellent non-commissioned officer, he was much respected and liked, both in the 43rd and the Bucks Battalion.

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